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22 PAGES 150 FILS

East Beirut set ablaze

BEIRUT, Jan 31. (Agencies): Savage fighting between Christians engulfed East Beirut today, devastating the city in tank and artillery battles that ignited huge fires.

The civil war, which erupted in mid-morning, intensified as night fell and both sides brought in reinforcements in a pitiless power struggle between General Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces (LF) militia.

Flames hit the night sky and a huge grey cloud hung over the Christian enclave as the heavily-armed 25,000 combatants fought from street-to-street in Lebanon's worst ever inter-Christian strife. The enclave is home to about half a million people.

Scores of fires raged out of control, one of them threatening Lebanon's main fuel storage depot at Dora. "The whole area is on fire," said a photographer.

(Continued on Page 11)

Gorby to stay

'Suggestions of resignation groundless'

MOSCOW, Jan 31. (AP): President Mikhail Gorbachev today denied a US broadcast report that he was considering resigning his post as Communist Party chief.

An unidentified party source, reported yesterday that Gorbachev had spent eight days holed up at his country house outside Moscow with top advisers and was considering resigning his leadership of the party.

The source was quoted as saying Gorbachev would retain the presidency, a government position he proposes to convert from a largely ceremonial post to a substantive one.

"I have no intention of doing so," Gorbachev said when asked about the report during a photo session at the start of a Kremlin meeting with Brazilian President-elect Fernando Collor de Mello.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, speaking at a regular news briefing, also denied the CNN report.

In a related discussion published in the Communist Party daily Pravda, four scholars called for strengthening the presidency to protect the head of state from efforts to oust him and to allow the President to act more decisively.

Historian Yevgeny Ambartsumyan said in Pravda that Gorbachev appeared unable to take decisive action because of the threat to his position.

US President George Bush telephoned Gorbachev today to discuss arms control, the official Tass news agency and Bush's spokesman said.

There was no "direct discussion" of the rumours Gorbachev was considering resigning his party leadership, presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

The CNN report touched off a temporary flurry of selling on Western stock markets and sent the dollar soaring on markets in New York and Japan. It was little changed today in Europe.

The ruling Communist Party has traditionally been the power base for Soviet leaders. And while the presidency has become a more visible and substantive position in recent months, the party's Politburo and central committee continue to retain the political power.

However, the party has been widely blamed for failing to solve the country's economic crisis, and reformist lawmakers are demanding that the communists give up their monopoly on power.

Gorbachev told journalists he had just returned from the south, apparently referring to his retreat on the Black Sea, where he was preparing for next week's meeting of the Communist Party's governing central committee.



My son!

Caserio Casella, 21, (center) is killed by his mother Angela as he arrives at his home. Casella was kidnapped two weeks ago and was released by his captors near the Aspromonte mountain village of Nafie di Careri in the Calabria region of southern Italy. (Reuters wirephoto) See Page 6.

Saddam pledges political freedom

BAGHDAD, Jan 31. (AP): President Saddam Hussein said today that Iraq will have a new constitution that will provide greater press freedom and allow the formation of new political parties.

"Democracy is a source of strength, not weakness," Saddam said in remarks to Arab parliamentarians.

He said the draft of the new constitution has been finalized and presented to the leadership for discussion prior to a public referendum.

The legislators from Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and North Yemen are meeting to discuss co-operation between the parliaments of the four countries, which are grouped in the Arab Co-operation Council. Jordan and Egypt already have elected parliaments.

"The Iraqi leader urged them to enhance the process of democracy in their countries to provide an example for other Arab countries."

Saddam said the new constitution, due to be adopted in 1990 after the referendum, will ensure greater freedoms including more press freedom and a provision to allow new political parties.

"No further details were available. Iraq has been run by the Arab Baath Socialist Party since it assumed power in a bloodless coup in July 1968."

Saddam's remarks were the latest sign of a measured political relaxation in Iraq, following the release by the government of some hitherto never-announced budget figures.

Benazir names girl Bakhtawar

ISLAMABAD, Jan 31. (AP): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has named her week-old daughter Bakhtawar, which means "one who brings luck" in Persian, it was announced today.

The girl, the second child of Benazir and husband Asif Zardari, was born on Jan 25 in the southern port city of Karachi. Benazir was the first elected leader of a modern government to give birth while in office.

The 36-year-old prime minister's first child, a son named Bilawal, was born on Sept. 21, 1988, two months before the first free elections in 11 years that Benazir's party won, leading to her becoming prime minister of Pakistan. Benazir campaigned until the final days before Bilawal's birth and was back on the campaign trail a week later.

Weather

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light to moderate south easterly wind and some clouds will appear gradually.

State of sea: Slight to moderate

High water: 3.00 am, 3.35 pm

Low water: 9.37 am, 10.00 pm

Sunrise: 6.38 am

Sunset: 5.25 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 17°C 63°F

Ahmad: 16°C 61°F

Falaka: 15°C 59°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 4°C 39°F

Ahmad: 3°C 37°F

Falaka: 2°C 36°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 19°C 66°F

Ahmad: 17°C 63°F

Falaka: 15°C 59°F

Minimum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 8°C 46°F

Ahmad: 6°C 43°F

Falaka: 5°C 41°F

Humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 89 per cent

Ahmad: 56 per cent

Falaka: 60 per cent

Eqama transfer ban to be relaxed

Three-year rule for private sector will go

Arab Times report

THE government has decided to waive the rule requiring expatriate workers in the private sector to work for a sponsor for a continuous period of three years before being allowed to transfer their residence to new sponsors, informed sources have told the Arab Times. The decision will be effective only after its publication in the official

Gazette.

The three-year ban was among a set of regulations issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour early last year to control the labour market.

The decision was applied to new recruits and private sector employees already working in Kuwait. But it was left for the Social Affairs Ministry to exempt certain cases from the rule, including those who have been working in the country continuously for more than 10 years.



A group of Muslim women shouts anti-Pakistani slogans outside the Pakistani High Commission during a protest in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gorby asked to halt flow of Jews

KUWAIT, Jan 31. (Agencies): Kuwaiti and Palestinian intellectuals today sent Mikhail Gorbachev a petition via the Soviet embassy here, urging him not to allow large numbers of Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel.

In the United Arab Emirates, the Sharjah-based daily Al Khaleej published a similar petition addressed to the Soviet President and urged readers to sign it at the newspapers' offices.

The petition in Arabic, Russian and English took up a quarter of the back page, with a reference to it on the front page under the title "Defend yourself, your children and your existence and let Gorbachev listen to your voice."

A Palestinian leader, meanwhile called for striking at American interests to force the United States not to facilitate the flow of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Recent remarks by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that large numbers of Soviet Jews could be settled in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip sparked an outcry in the Arab world.

Kuwait, which has a large Palestinian community of some 300,000, has been outspoken following the reports of an anticipated increase in the flow of Soviet Jews into Israel.

"I think priority should be given to dealing strikes to US interests," said the member of the Fatah-Revolutionary Council, identified only as by his own de guerre Abu Daoud in an interview published in the daily newspaper Al Sayassah.

The United States recently tightened restrictions on the immigration of Soviet Jews.

Soviet ambassador Ernest Zverev, who received the petition bearing hundreds of signatures from the group that called at the embassy, was quoted as assuring them: "The question of the immigration of Soviet Jews into Israel concerns Moscow in the same way it concerns the Arabs and the Palestinians."

(Continued on Page 11)



Glemp serious

Roman Catholic primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp is in serious condition after two operations of perforated ulcer. Glemp became primate of Poland at the height of the Solidarity labour upheaval and oversaw the church during the bitter period of martial law and its aftermath. (Reuters wirephoto) See Page 7

Provocation!

India accuses Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Jan 3. (Agencies): India today accused Pakistan of inciting Muslim separatists in Kashmir to "subversion, violence and terrorist activities" amid militant attacks that left four people wounded and new protests in Srinagar against Indian rule.

In a related development, authorities impounded at Bombay airport the latest issues of Newsweek magazine, charging it carried an "anti-Indian" story on the uprising in mostly Muslim Kashmir, the United News of India news agency reported.

Customs officials impounded 10,000 copies of the US magazine for carrying a controversial map of troubled Kashmir.

The map in Newsweek's Feb 5 issue was objectionable because it showed northern Kashmir as part of Pakistan, a customs spokesman said.

Indian authorities will decide later whether to release the magazines after blacking out the map, the spokesman said.

The move follows the detention and expulsion last weekend from Kashmir of foreign journalists on grounds of being security threats. Officials also denied public telephones and telephone facilities to Indian reporters as part of a news blackout on the crisis.

India's latest blast at its neighbour over the disputed region came after a speech by Pakistan Foreign Minister Sbahabzada Yaqub Khan over state-radio and television last evening, in which he said Islamabad backed the "struggle for self-determination" in Kashmir by "freedom fighters."

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Khan's description of the situation "is deliberately fallacious" and

added "the statement from the Pakistani foreign minister indicates that his government persists in its efforts to involve itself in our internal affairs."

"Indeed, some of the rhetoric used in the broadcast amounts to direct incitement to subversion, violence and terrorist activities in a part of India," said Aftab Seth, adding Pakistan's stance "can only create tension."

Seth said the only issue on Kashmir to be resolved is the "vacation by Pakistan of territory illegally occupied by it."

Meanwhile, in the main Kashmir city of Srinagar, incidents of unrest and rumours of other trouble prompted shopkeepers who opened stores during a relaxation of curfew to close early, leaving the streets to only troops, police and legions of stray dogs.

The curfew was imposed, Jan 20 on Srinagar and other towns of the Kashmir valley after violence that residents claim was provoked when security forces fired on peaceful pro-secession demonstrations.

Popular perceptions that hundreds of people were killed converted what had essentially been a protest movement into a mass uprising against Indian rule supported by virtually all 3 million Muslim residents of Kashmir.

During the break, some 1,500 people shouting "Indian dogs go back" and "we want independence" protested a second day in the Zaina Kadal area over soldiers who entered a mosque late Sunday.

In Dhaka, Bangladesh, about 500 Muslims demonstrated near the Indian high commission today, demanding an end to what they called genocide in Indian-ruled Kashmir.

The ministry said last year that the main aim of the decision was to organise and stabilise the workforce in the private sector and stop the continuous change of jobs which affected the market stability. It was enforced from March 22, 1989. Other clauses in the regulations included banning part-time jobs for private sector employees and labourers.

Both employees and employers in the private sector have been critical of the three-year ban. Employees said that the decision gives power to employers to exploit them as they have to stay at least three years with them. Employers said that the condition will leave them with little opportunity to acquire experienced manpower from the local market and they will be forced, if allowed, to recruit necessary workers from outside Kuwait.

According to the existing rules, in case of employers sacking their employees before the lapse of the three years, they have to bear their expenses by sending them back home. Such employees cannot seek alternative jobs before leaving Kuwait.

Six killed in Kabul blast

KABUL, Jan 31. (Agencies): Six people were killed and 122 injured when a powerful car bomb exploded in the centre of Kabul today, a government spokesman said.

The blast occurred during the lunchtime rush and the spokesman said the death toll could rise because many of the injured were in serious condition.

He blamed the explosion on mujahideen rebels battling to overthrow the Soviet-backed Afghan government.

The government spokesman said the explosives were in a taxi parked in front of the official Bakhtar Information Agency (BIA).

The blast ripped a hole two metres (yards) wide in the road. Several parked cars were destroyed and broken glass from the five-storey BIA building and surrounding shops littered the street.

It was not clear whether the official news agency was the target of the bombers.



Taste of Big Mac

Fast food chain McDonald's opened its first restaurant in Moscow yesterday and Muscovites, braving the cultural shock, surged in for their first bite of a Big Mac and a slurp of a milkshake.

Some Muscovites queued for hours to taste the produce of the US hamburger chain — and initial verdicts were the stuff that McDonald's advertising executives dream about.

"It tastes great," cried schoolboy Max Sanyan, one of the first into the restaurant when its doors were flung open at 10 am.

"I waited for two hours to get in, I missed school just to come here. Oh, this tastes beautiful," he said piling into a Big Mac. Picture shows a Soviet militiaman gets his first taste of a McDonald's hamburger as he stands duty in front of the Pushkin Square. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

Iran ready to pursue hostage release: Iran's leaders are ready to help secure the release of American and other Western hostages held by Shiite Muslim extremists in Lebanon because the captives have lost their political value, a Kuwait daily newspaper has said.

US navy fired on Cuban cargo ship: Cuba said a US warship opened fire on a Cuban cargo ship off the coast of Mexico on Wednesday while attempting to carry out a drug search of the vessel. (Reuters)

Former Guam governor commits suicide: Former Guam Governor Ricardo Bordallo wrapped himself in a flag and committed suicide in a public square on Wednesday just before he was to fly to California to serve a four-year jail sentence, police said. (Reuters)

British ferry drifting in Irish sea: A ferry carrying 285 people drifted without power on Wednesday in stormy seas off Wales after an engine fire, but the owners said the blaze was put out quickly and passengers were in no danger. (Reuters)

Namibian independence: Namibia's constituent assembly voted unanimously on Wednesday to declare independence from South Africa at midnight on March 21, the South African Press Association news agency reported. (Reuters)

Gummen kill Italian priest: Gummen killed an Italian priest and seriously wounded another in northeastern Uganda, a church official said Wednesday. The Rev. Egidio Bicarico, 62, was shot and killed on Monday on a road between Fajure and Kilgum townships, said the Rev. Tarcis Agostoni. (AP)

Five killed in unrest in Kosovo: Five ethnic Albanians were reported killed in clashes with police in Yugoslavia's Kosovo province on Wednesday, the eighth day of protests. (Reuters) (See Page 7)

Bishops back Aquino

MANILA, Jan 31. (Reuters): The Philippines' powerful Roman Catholic Church gave strong backing to President Corason Aquino today and called on the nation to resist army attempts to overthrow her.

More than 100 bishops attacked the leader of a failed army rebellion in December as misguided adventurers and said further military attempts to seize power could spark a cycle of coups in the mainly Christian country.

"The use of arms to overthrow our duly constituted government is immoral and would be tantamount to an unjust usurpation of power," the Catholic bishops conference of the Philippines said in a letter to be read in churches nationwide.

"In the face of such a morally unjustifiable coup attempt, a responsible citizen cannot be morally neutral," the bishops said in the December coup attempt — the sixth and most serious to confront Aquino.

The bishops urged change through peaceful means. (See Page 6)

British doctors claim first operation on unborn baby

LONDON, Jan 31. (Reuters): British doctors said today they had performed the first successful heart operation on a baby in its mother's womb though the baby was still critically ill afterwards.

A team at Guy's Hospital in London inserted a minuscule balloon with the diameter of a small sewing needle into the heart of an unborn baby boy to open a closed valve that would have killed him otherwise.

Last week American doctors disclosed the first successful operation on a fetus removed from the mother's womb and returned after life-saving lung surgery. That baby was born three months later and is still alive six months after birth.

Medical experts said the two operations raised new ethical issues for doctors, who had to decide when and if they should tamper with the development of a fetus and if such operations were worth the risk they posed to the mother.

The London doctors told a news conference they performed the in-womb operation twice, after 31 weeks and 33 weeks of the mother's pregnancy. The baby was born prematurely on January 4, a week after the second operation, and underwent surgery a third time a few hours after birth.

"This is the first time that such a procedure was accomplished on a fetus to the womb," said Professor Michael Tynan, professor of paediatric

cardiology at Guy's, who led the surgical team.

"I would not go so far as to say it was a success," said Tynan, because the baby was still in critical condition. "It only demonstrated that such a procedure is possible."

The baby, who was not identified, is critically ill and on a ventilator. The doctors would not give a prognosis on his survival.

About one in every 120 babies is born with congenital heart disease and of these, seven to 10 per cent have aortic stenosis. The doctors said they had no way of predicting how many fetuses had the condition as it was extremely hard to detect.

LTTE shooting spree

Strike over abduction of 27 Muslims

COLOMBO, Jan 31, (Agencies): Nearly 200 Tamil rebels today blasted shops and offices in an eastern town with gunfire after residents refused to end a strike over the abduction of 27 Muslims the guerrillas claimed were involved in killing seven of their comrades, police said.

No shooting casualties were reported, but police said a bank clerk caught running for shelter in the police station was beaten by members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

A senior police officer, contacted by telephone in Kalamunai, 125 miles (200 km) northeast of Colombo, said the rebels had arrived in buses in the morning and began ordering shopkeepers and businessmen to end a protest strike over the abductions and reopen their establishments.

Apparently enraged that their directives were being rejected, the nearly 200 LTTE members went on a shooting spree, plastering shops and offices with automatic weapons fire, he said.

LDCs require aid: Ershad

Cut Third World debt

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 31. (AP): Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad yesterday urged industrialised countries to reduce crushing Third World debt and draw the developing world into the economic mainstream and out of a "decade of despair."

Ershad, in a speech to the 100-nation Group of 77, warned that half a billion people in the least developed countries, including Bangladesh, remain "on the margin of existence" and need international support.

Bangladesh, a flood-ravaged nation to the Ganges river delta, has an average per capita income of \$160 per year.

"The restoration of growth in the LDCs (least developed countries) will require substantial increase in development assistance," he said.

For the underdeveloped countries, Ershad said, the 1980s were a decade of socio-economic stagnation.

"What was to be a decade of development became a decade of despair," he said. Average per capita income declined for most of the decade, and unemployment and illiteracy rose, he said.

Ershad said overseas development assistance, ODA, must move towards an agreed target of 0.15 per cent of the donors' gross national product, or alternatively doubling aid for the least developed countries.

Donors should consider debt



Ershad: appeal

bling the present level of ODA in the next five years," Ershad said. In the long term they should aim at revising the target to 0.20 per cent of their GNP to least developed nations, he said.

He praised the Toronto summit of industrialised nations, which agreed last year to some debt relief. But added initiatives taken since then are still very inadequate. He said the burden of debt must be lifted "at least to the point where their economies can grow out of their overwhelming indebtedness."

He said it also is necessary to decisively reduce the overall debt stock of the least developed countries and substantially reduce their multilateral and commercial debt obligations.

Amit challenge to V.P. Singh

Star denies hand in Bofors

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Jan 31: Hindi film star Amitabh Bachchan has challenged Prime Minister V.P. Singh to initiate action against him if he were guilty of any illegality with regard to the multi-million dollar Bofors gun deal.

In a letter to Singh, written as a "citizen of India who wants to reclaim his good name," Bachchan said that over the last three years, Singh and his associates had repeatedly insinuated that he was involved in the Bofors deal.

"No evidence has ever been produced to substantiate this charge, but the allegations have persisted," he said.

Bachchan recalled that two weeks ago, he had challenged the ruling party and the government to

NEWS IN BRIEF

Greek ship disappears in Channel: A Greek-registered cargo ship disappeared during a storm in the English Channel and all 19 crew members were feared dead, the coast guard said on Tuesday.

Two bodies, one identified as a Greek member of the crew, washed ashore on the south coast of England with a life boat bearing the ship's name, Flag Theofano.

The coast guard said 11 Greeks, seven Malaysians and one Egyptian were on board.

The coast guard said sonar readings located a sunken vessel 5 miles (8 kms) south of Portsmouth, but stormy weather prevented divers from positively identifying the wreckage as the 99-metre (324-foot) ship (AP).

Chinese hijacker seeks asylum in Japan: A Chinese textile worker, in custody in Japan for allegedly hijacking a plane during a flight from Beijing to New York, yesterday requested political asylum for fear he will be executed if returned to China, his lawyers said.

"I attempted the hijacking as the last resort to flee from my country. I intend to ask for political asylum and hope that the Japanese government will not send me back to China and will give me freedom," one of his lawyers, Kazuo Iwaki, said in an appeal read at a news conference.

Zhang, 35, allegedly hijacked Air China flight 981 with 223 people aboard just before the plane was scheduled to land in Shanghai on Dec 16. (UPI)

New AIDS drug effective in early stage: The experimental AIDS drug DDI appears to be safe in early use by several thousand US patients, a Bristol-Myers Squibb company researcher said on Tuesday.

Based on reports from doctors who are supervising use of the drug by about 5,300 AIDS patients, "we are satisfied patients are not being jeopardised," said Dr Robert Wittes, senior vice president of the research division of the company, which is developing the drug under a licence from the National Cancer Institute.

The finding is the first to become public about DDI's safety since extensive human testing of DDI began last fall. (Reuters)

Fluoride can cause cancer in rats: A government-sponsored study indicates that high doses of fluoride may cause cancer in rats, but public health officials in US cautioned Tuesday that the findings were preliminary.

Officials also said the findings do not suggest that tooth-decay-fighting fluoride in drinking water and toothpaste could cause in humans.

"The findings must be evaluated and given final scientific peer review before conclusions can be drawn," said Jim Brown, a spokesman for the public health service. (AP)

Malaysian delegation leaves for Hanoi: A Malaysian delegation left Tuesday for Hanoi for talks on sending home some of the 20,000 Vietnamese who have fled to Malaysia, officials said.

"substitute hard fact for innuendo within 30 days."

"But no proof was forthcoming. Instead, your party's spokesman denied that the charge had ever been made."

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has, meanwhile, filed a first information report which mentions 14 individuals but in which my name does not figure," the letter said.

According to the film star, this further reaffirmed that he was in no way involved with the Bofors deal.

"I ask now, prime minister, that you clarify the situation. If you believe that I am guilty, then please take action," the letter said.

Bachchan said the prime minister had the resources of the government at his disposal.

"There is nobody in a position of authority to protect me, as proclaimed by you over the last three years. You can, I am sure, dig up all the proof you need and I will be happy to defend myself in a court of law," he said.

The film star said if there was no proof of his involvement, then Singh ought to clear his name.

"As you repeatedly told us that you stand for decency in public life, this, surely, is the decent thing to do," he said.

Bachchan told Singh that was not cynical enough to think that the prime minister was playing a political game to advance his own prospects.

"People say that when you had to resign from the (Rajiv Gandhi) government, Amitabh Bachchan was a perfect pretext. That when you wanted to return to Parliament, it suited you to claim that you were only standing from Allahabad to fight me. (Of course, I did not stand and you did not withdraw, but that is another story)," he said.

"People say that you will cynically ignore this letter, that innuendo suits your purpose better than truth," Bachchan said.

But, according to Bachchan, he did not share this view. He had enough faith in Indian democracy to believe that no prime minister would stoop so low as to willfully slander a private citizen solely for political gain.

"You have told us to expect an open government. Well, prime minister, this is your chance to be open. Prosecute me, come clean and let the truth be made public," he said.

Gunmen raid funeral, kill 2 in Pakistan

KARACHI, Jan 31, (Reuters): Gunmen killed two mourners today in the southern Pakistan town of Hyderabad, raising to 15 the death toll from two days of ethnic violence, police said.

The unidentified gunmen also wounded 24 when they opened fire at 200 mourners returning from a graveyard after burying victims killed on Tuesday in clashes between rival ethnic groups.

Hospital doctors had earlier put at 11 the toll from yesterday's violence in Hyderabad, 175 km (110 miles) east of the Sind province capital Karachi, but said today that two more bodies were found later.

Authorities ordered a curfew in three more police districts after today's firing.

Quark model scientist dies

NEW YORK, Jan 31, (AP): Mirza Abdul Baq Beg, an Indian born physicist whose theoretical work helped establish the model of the subatomic quark particle, has died of a heart attack.

Beg, 55, died yesterday at his home.

In the 1960s, Beg's work helped verify the modern Quark model of Hadron structure, which describes nuclear particles like protons and neutrons as being composites made up of smaller entities called Quarks, the Rockefeller University said in a release.

Prior to working in particle physics, he made significant contributions to nuclear physics, the release said.

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BAR NUMBRI BETA DUS NUMBRI

Handwritten signature: فخرنا انوار

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: New Yorkers are used to being told what they can't do in public spaces. No parking. No dogs. No smoking. No spitting. No left turns.

But no weddings? A sign on a pier along the East River, which borders Manhattan, shows a bride and groom inside the international symbol for prohibition — a circle with a slash through it.

"It's a funky sign and we made it in a fun way," Department of Parks and Recreation spokesman Frances Resheske said. "We didn't mean to imply that weddings are prohibited, just that people are not allowed to close off the pier to the public."

Resheske said many couples holding receptions at a nearby restaurant were led to believe they could hold private ceremonies on the pier.

The pier has an unobstructed view of the Manhattan skyline and has become a popular pedestrian walkway — and a wedding hot spot. "We were getting complaints that it was being closed many Saturdays and Sundays in the summer," said Resheske.

"We're not anti-weddings. If someone wanted to go out tomorrow with a judge and get married on the pier, fine. ... You just can't close it off."

Violators can be fined up to \$5,000. (AP)

ALNWICK, England: One of England's last medieval fairs to roast a whole ox in public has found an unusual way to safeguard centuries of tradition.

Under new rules to counter "mad cow" disease, an epidemic afflicting British cattle, all beef carcasses must be halved for checking before leaving abattoirs, making them impossible to turn on a spit.

But ox-roasting enthusiasts in Alnwick, northeast England, have hit on a Frankenstein-style solution — bolting the beast back together. (Reuters)

NEW YORK: Catherine Connet, music director of the Grand Rapids symphony in Michigan, has been named music director of the American Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Connet, who studied with the late Nadia Boulanger and Pierre Boulez, will assume her new job for the fall season.

"The New York-based orchestra was founded in 1962 by Leopold Stokowski. His previous music director, John Mauceri, left in 1986.

"We've used the last couple of seasons to try out people," said general manager Raymond T. Grant. (AP)

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: The Wolf Foundation announced that Macha McCarty, Professor Emerita of Rockefeller University, was the winner of the 1990 \$100,000 Wolf Prize for medicine for his work in genetic research.

In 1940s, McCarty and Colla Macleod were assistants to Oswald Avery when they demonstrated with bacteria that DNA composed

Codemaster

UK war hero dies

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): Group Capt. F.W. Winterbotham, who played a key role in exploiting broken German codes in World War II and wrote the bestseller memoir "The Ultra Secret," has died at age 92.

He died peacefully at home on Sunday, the British newspaper notices said yesterday.

Frederick William Winterbotham was a pilot in World War I, and in 1929 was made head of aerial intelligence in M16, the British intelligence agency.

In the 1930s he managed to befriend senior Nazi figures in Germany and glean information about the Luftwaffe. In 1939 he helped devise a vital new method of aerial reconnaissance photography.

But his most important work was with "Ultra," the top-secret German code system that the British had managed to penetrate.

Winterbotham's job was to get the information from enigma, or "ultra" intelligence, as it was known, to commanders in the field without revealing to the Germans that their code had been cracked. He worked out a system that was successful throughout the war, and did not become public knowledge until the 1970s.

genetic material and not proteins as was generally believed. McCarty is the only survivor of the three researchers.

The revelation "opened the way to the great discoveries of the 20th century in molecular biology, culminated by the unravelling of the genetic code," the foundation said.

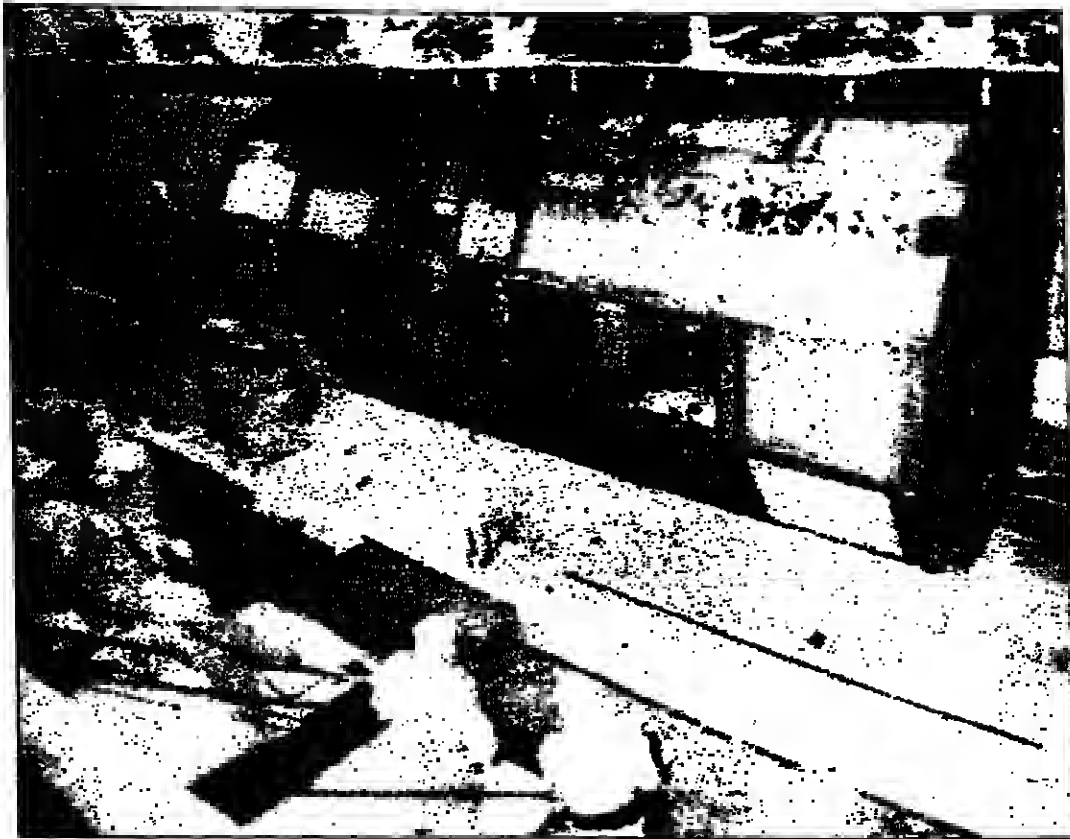
PARIS: Folk singer Bob Dylan opened a European tour this week in the French capital, where he was honoured with the title of Commander of Arts and Letters — the artistic equivalent of the Legion of Honour, the government said.

The Culture Ministry said Dylan would be inducted into the honoufific legion Tuesday evening, joining the ranks of artists and entertainers such as Elizabeth Taylor and Liza Minelli. (UPI)

NEW YORK: One of just 12 known first editions of Edgar Allan Poe's first published book sold at auction Tuesday for \$165,000, Sotheby's said.

The book, "Tamerlane and Other Poems," went to a private US collector, said Laura Stewart, a spokeswoman for the auction house.

The copy sold was one of just two that are in private hands; the other sold at Sotheby's last year for \$198,000, Stewart said.



Rescued satellite

Scientists say they are pleased with the condition of a rescued science satellite because the wear and tear it received during six years in space was just what they wanted.

"That's why we sent it up there, to find out what happens to materials after a long time in the space environment," William H. Kinerd, project chief, said after getting his first look at the satellite since its return.

Kinerd and other scientists watched as the shuttle

Columbia's cargo bay swung open to reveal the 11-ton satellite known as the Long Duration Exposure Facility.

Columbia's astronauts retrieved the laboratory 200 miles (320 km) in space on Jan 12, snaring it just weeks before it probably would have been dragged by gravity to a fiery death in the atmosphere.

The satellite eventually will be moved to a nearby sterilized building for close examination. (Reuters wirephoto)

ST editor wins in libel case

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): Sunday Times editor Andrew Neil won £1,000 (\$1,600) in libel damages yesterday from a newspaper that accused him of defaming with a call girl.

The jury awarded his employer, Times newspapers, just 60 pence (51). But the defendant, the Sunday Telegraph, was ordered to pay the costs of the case, estimated at £200,000 (\$320,000).

The High Court jury decided that Neil, a 40-year-old bachelor, was libeled in a cartoon and two articles in the Sunday Telegraph last March.

"It's a clear vindication. I'm delighted," said Neil afterward. "It's been a tough battle. I'm happy with the award."

Peregrine Worsthorne, the former Sunday Telegraph editor who was named in the libel suit, said the damages "were so desirous that it was as good as a victory."

"It was a case that should never have been brought and Mr Neil should be ashamed of himself. Let this case teach all editors a lesson. Don't sue," Worsthorne, 66, told reporters.

Worsthorne, in an editorial entitled "Playboys as editors," claimed Neil's four-month affair with call girl Pamela Bordes rendered him unfit to edit a quality newspaper.

Neil sued, calling Worsthorne's editorial the "most damaging attack of my professional integrity" in his six years as Sunday Times editor.

He insisted that contrary to what Worsthorne wrote, he did not know Ms. Bordes was a call girl until after their affair ended.

Credibility at stake
Nasa partners express anger

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (AP): The United States' international partners in the space station programme bitterly accused Nasa of acting in bad faith because they were excluded from decision making last year when the station's construction schedule was delayed.

"Partners do not operate at arm's length, nor do they take decisions unilaterally that will damage the interest of the other partners," Reinhard Loosch of West Germany told a congressional hearing yesterday.

He said he hoped the schism that developed was merely "one of the teething troubles" of the partnership, which is called the most advanced and costly international technological project ever undertaken.

"The government of the Federal Republic of Germany cannot hide its disappointment," said Loosch, who is that country's deputy assistant director for international co-operation.

Last July, when it appeared Congress might cut \$400 million from the space station programme, Nasa planners secluded themselves at the Langley Research Centre in Virginia and worked out plans to cope with the shortfall. In August, the international partners were informed of the changes, consisting mainly of a one-year delay in completing construction.

Congress, too, was kept in the dark. US representative Robert Roe, who chaired Tuesday's hearing of his House Committee on Science and Technology, said

it was regrettable that the committee "learned of this exercise from media reports and was not directly consulted."

The committee had expressed its anger last year at a hearing to which it summoned top Nasa management. It turned out that Nasa was denied only \$200 million and some design changes were restored.

But Reimar Luest, director-general of ESA, said that in the revised plan "only US payloads were adequately provided for. ... Anything related to ESA was left in the mists of a new, second part of the programme ... for which a detailed schedule was not available."

He said the action violated international agreements "and offered no protections for ESA's major investment."

The European Space Agency, which represents 10 nations, is obligated to provide the Columbus laboratory module, an unmanned free-flying polar platform and another free flyer — at an investment of about \$3 billion. Japan signed on to provide an experiment module, also to be permanently attached to the space station base, at a similar cost.

If Nasa's space station budget is cut "then the burden of the cuts ... should not be shifted by Nasa onto the other partners," said Luest.

Learco Saporito, a senator in Italy's Parliament, said that not just the space station but the credibility of the United States as a partner was at stake.

Radio computer service

Voice-activated dialing

NEW YORK, Jan 31, (AP): IBM and Motorola Inc. announced yesterday a nation-wide radio network that will allow users of hand-held computers to tap into central computers from almost anywhere without the need for a telephone line.

The two companies formed a joint venture, called Ardis, by combining their existing radio networks.

Motorola has been offering a similar service for several years in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. It will combine this service with International Business Machine Corp.'s in-house radio network that the computer company uses for its service technicians nationwide.

"We're giving the mobile worker access to data he's never had before," said Jack Blumenstein, an IBM executive who was named president of Ardis.

Potential users of the service included field service personnel such as equipment maintenance technicians, real estate brokers, package-delivery workers, police officers and insurance agents.

For example, by using a hand-held computer terminal hooked up to the radio network, a home appliance repairman could be told by his headquarters what service calls to make and what the problems are, and he in turn

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, Jan 31 (AP): Harned business travellers weighed down with suitcases and overcoats will soon be able to let their voice do the dialing for long-distance calls.

US Sprint, the nation's third-largest long-distance company, announced Monday it would offer the first voice-activated dialing service sometime between April and June to customers in selected markets.

The service would allow a caller to say his name and a password instead of using Sprint's long-distance travel card, which required a caller to punch in as many as 24 digits.

The new Sprint system would not eliminate punching in numbers, said Syd Courson, a company spokesman. A caller would have to dial an 8-digit number to gain access to the voice-activated network before doing the rest of the dialing by voice.

However, the caller could speed-dial certain preregistered numbers by barking orders such as "call home" into a phone.

"These are the features the travelling public tells us they want," Courson said. American Telephone and Telegraph Co. said it has the technology to offer similar voice-activated services and is conducting trials to determine what features customers want. AT and T spokeswoman Fran Anderson said some products could be announced in 1990.

"There's lots of technology out there," Anderson said. "The real test now is applying it to what customers need."

could check on availability of parts from his company's warehouse once he arrives at the home of the person needing repair.

"In essence, Ardis is taking the personal computer out of the office, putting it in a vehicle or briefcase, and replacing the wire with two-way radio," said Art Sundry, president and general manager of Motorola's communications sector.

The service, which will be available in April, would appear to be in competition with cellular

telephones, which provide mobile phone service in much of the nation. Using cellular phones and a modem, a portable computer can be hooked up to a mainframe computer.

But IBM and Motorola say their system is more useful because it is on line all the time — there's no need to dial up a computer. In addition, they say, it provides the ability to store and recall messages that are sent to the terminal when the user is not monitoring it.

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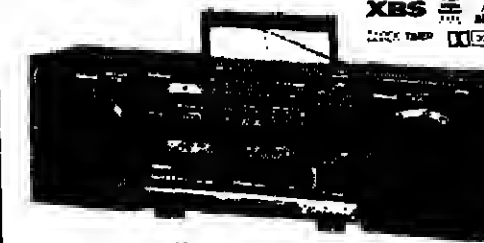
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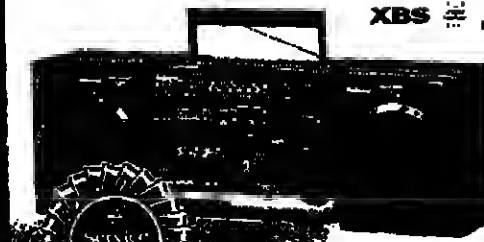
RX-DS650 100W



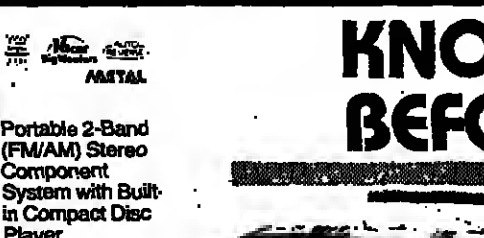
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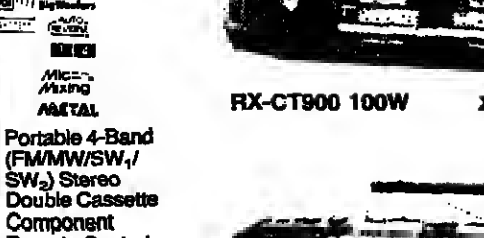
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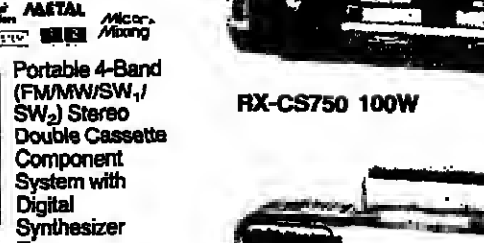
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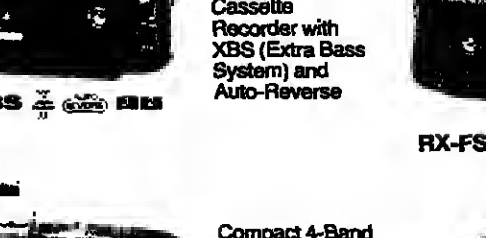
RX-CS750 100W



RX-FS450 16W



RX-FS400 16W



RX-FW25F 20W



RX-FW15F 20W



RX-FW25F 20W



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Trial

Former Exxon Valdez captain Joseph Valdez listens to the questions at second day of jury selection for his trial in Anchorage for the grounding of the tanker that resulted in one of the largest oil spills in US history. (Reuters wirephoto)

Proof against Barry piles up

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (UPI): A city employee who reportedly has said Mayor Marion Barry smoked crack cocaine in 1988 pleaded guilty to a narcotics charge yesterday and then testified for two hours before a federal grand jury investigating the mayor.

James McWilliams pleaded guilty before a federal magistrate to a misdemeanor count of aiding and abetting "another person" in the use of crack cocaine on Dec 19, 1988, when Barry allegedly used the drug with former city worker Charles Lewis at a downtown Ramada Inn.

US attorney Jay Stephens said McWilliams' guilty plea and testimony was part of a plea bargain, and called it "another significant step" in the continuing probe of Barry.

He entered that plea. He acknowledged his culpability and guilt with respect to a Dec 19 (1988) incident at the Ramada Inn, and the government will proceed on that basis," Stephens said.

Stephens would not detail McWilliams' testimony to the secret panel. The Washington Post, citing anonymous sources, reported that McWilliams had agreed to tell the grand jury he was in the hotel room as Barry and Lewis smoked crack cocaine.

Such testimony could lead to felony charges of perjury and obstruction of justice against Barry, who already faces a misdemeanor charge of cocaine possession after his Jan 18 arrest at another downtown hotel.

Barry's arrest "constituted one step in an ongoing investigation," Stephens said.

Reagan told to turn over Iran-Contra diaries

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (AP): A judge yesterday ordered former US President Ronald Reagan to turn over excerpts of his personal diaries to former National Security Adviser John Poindexter for use in his Iran-Contra trial.

US district judge Harold Greene ordered Reagan to produce entries from his diaries for 29 different dates in 1985 and 1986.

In addition, Poindexter is entitled to receive other diary excerpts, said the judge. He did not detail how many or covering what dates.

Reagan was ordered to give Poindexter the diary entries by Monday. Greene gave him nearly a week to produce the material in case Reagan decides to

assert executive privilege in an attempt to avoid surrendering the diaries.

Iran-Contra, which involved the clandestine sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of some of the profits to Nicaraguan rebels when such aid was banned by Congress, became the biggest foreign policy scandal of Reagan's eight years in office.

None of the diary entries covered in Greene's order "sheds any light on the question of what President Reagan may have known about the diversion" of proceeds to the Contras, the judge said.

Reagan has denied knowing about the diversion, and Poindexter testified to Congress that he didn't tell the president.

Theodore Olson, one of Reagan's lawyers, was not immediately available for comment, his office said. But Reagan's lawyers have argued in the past that any president's ability to conduct foreign affairs would be hampered if the precedent were set for forcing a former executive to reveal sensitive matters to a court.

"The spectacle of a former president being subjected to pre-emptory judicial process may chill foreign governments in the way they deal with the president now and in the future," the lawyers said in earlier documents submitted to the court.

Defense filings in the case indicate Poindexter

may try to portray Reagan as a more active and informed participant in the Iran-Contra affair than the president Poindexter described in his 1987 congressional testimony.

Poindexter maintains that Reagan knew of and approved activities undertaken in the Iran-Contra initiatives and that therefore he had no reason to conceal these activities from Congress, as charged in the indictment against him.

Reagan was ordered to produce a diary entry that includes a somewhat ambiguous comment arguably indicating that the former president knew of Poindexter's activities on behalf of the Contras, Greene said.

Bankers knew of drug dollars

Noriega-linked money trial

TAMPA, Florida, Jan 31, (Agencies): International bankers were told—but didn't care—that suitcases of cash deposited in their vaults came from Colombian cocaine dealers, prosecutors said yesterday as a \$32 million money-laundering trial opened.

The six defendants include Amjad Awan, Pakistani, an international banker who once claimed to handle Manuel Noriega's secret accounts.

Assistant US attorney Michael Rubenstein described how proceeds from cocaine sales were turned into cash and filtered through the defendants' institution, the Luxembourg-based Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).

An undercover customs agent who had infiltrated the international cocaine business told Awan where the money came from, Rubenstein said.

"And Awan responded, 'it's not any business of mine who the customers are,'" the prosecutor quoted the agent as saying.

Awan, a former Latin American assistant division director for the Bank of Credit and Commerce, told a Senate panel in 1988 he managed secret accounts for Noriega that held up to \$23 million.

Noriega is being held in Miami on charges he accepted millions of dollars in bribes for allowing the cartel to launder money and process and ship drugs through Panama to the United States. He was brought to Florida to stand trial after US troops invaded Panama.

US district judge W. Terrell Hodges on Jan 17 denied a defence motion to block any mention of Noriega, who once ran Panama as a military dictator, during the trial.

On trial with Awan are Rudolph Ambrosio, of Medellin, Colombia, and four former employees of the bank.

Just before the start of jury selection two weeks ago, guilty pleas were entered by the Luxembourg bank and a Colombian who prosecutors said ran a network to help traffickers hide the source of their drug money.

As part of a plea bargain, the bank, one of the world's largest private financial institutions, agreed to forfeit a record \$14 million in assets frozen by the government and to co-operate against other defendants.

Gonzalo Mora Jr. pleaded guilty to drug trafficking, conspiracy and money laundering. The indictment resulted from a two-year operation in which an undercover agent conned his way into an international money laundering network.

Agents helped direct profits from cocaine sales in US cities to Colombia through Panama, eventually building a global laundering operation worth an estimated \$32 million, investigators said.

Customs agents said the money was intended mainly for Colombian drug traffickers, including the Medellin cartel. Awan's attorney, however, later told the 12-member jury his client had a "good faith belief" that he was not involved in laundering drug profits and that the prosecution was trying to find him guilty by his association with Noriega.

Awan for more than a decade administered \$23 million kept by Noriega in BCCI accounts. He and four other bank officials and two Colombians were indicted in Tampa in October 1988 on 32 counts of money laundering and one count of conspiring to smuggle drugs. Each faces a maximum penalty of life in prison without the chance of parole.

The indictment, which alleged that \$32 million in drug profits were laundered throughout the world, followed a two-year US Customs Service sting dubbed operation C-hase.

At the time of the indictment, BCCI was the seventh-largest privately held financial institution in the world, with nearly \$20 billion in assets and more than 400 offices in 73 countries.

Lawyers have declared he is a prisoner of war under the Geneva convention and thus should be sent to a neutral country or housed in a POW camp. They have refused to recognise US district judge William Hodges' jurisdiction in the case and have said the World Court must decide Noriega's status.

Kebe Mbaya, vice-president of the ICI, told United Press International yesterday the body will not be able to hear Noriega's case "because the statute of the court says that it can only handle disputes between states, which are brought by states."

After learning that officials had discovered microphones in the palace in the president's office, Zulema Menem left the presidential palace, located about 30 miles (50 km) north of downtown Buenos Aires, and moved into an apartment on Thursday. (UPI)

Black-black discrimination: A black woman fired as a tax department clerk-tylist went to court Tuesday, claiming her black boss discriminated against her because her skin was light.

Tracy Lynn Morrow "was harassed based on her personal physical characteristics," said her attorney, Michael Weinstein, in opening arguments in US district court. "The tone of her skin is underlying this complaint."

But assistant US Attorney S. Lark Ingram argued that Ms Morrow's poor performance — not her colour — resulted in her firing. (AP)

Mom found guilty: A woman was found guilty of murder Tuesday in the suffocation of one of two infant daughters she claimed were abducted by a masked man in Peoria, Illinois.

Paula Marie Sims, 30, was convicted in the April 29 death of her 6-week-old daughter, Heather Lee. The jury deliberated nine hours over two days before returning the guilty verdict.

Prosecutors have said they would seek the death penalty. (AP)

2 deaf brothers shot, 1 dies: Teenagers shot two deaf brothers, killing one, in an apparent traffic dispute that escalated because the victims knew only sign language, police said in Los Angeles.

"It is unlikely that they understood what was being said or what was happening," Lt. Harvie Eubank said. "It was just a senseless shooting."

Zulema Yoma de Menem said in an interview in the newspaper La Nacion that she feared for her



Family members of the jail breakers celebrate in front of the prison and called on Chileans to aid the escaped prisoners. (Reuters wirephoto)

Great escape in Chile

49 tunnelled their way out

SANTIAGO, Chile, Jan 31, (AP): Forty-nine imprisoned guerrillas, including several who tried to kill President Augusto Pinochet in 1986, tunnelled their way out of a downtown jail yesterday, officials said.

The inmates had apparently worked on the ventilated, illuminated 100-metre-long (100-yard-long) shaft for more than a year.

Six of the escapees were quickly captured by police, officials said, but 43 others involved in the early-morning breakout remained at large.

One other prisoner was caught when he got stuck in the tunnel's mouth, 20 inches (50 centimetres) in diameter.

Horacio Ojeda, director of the national prison system, said the inmates tunneled from a cell block to a nearby lot where a subway station was being constructed, passing under a busy road.

The escape was discovered before dawn, he said. Several hours after the breakout, a man who identified himself as one of the escapees called radio Co-operative in Santiago and said construction of the tunnel had taken more than a year, with two

dozen inmates helping plan the escape.

"The tunnel has a ventilation system operated with blowers," the man said. "It has electrical light and a rail system we used to take out the removed material."

"After we left, the tunnel remained open, and we think it was used by other prisoners, who were not part of our plan," the caller added.

The caller's account was in line with what reporters were shown by prison authorities. The entrance to the tunnel was inside a cell, and inmates apparently used a heavy cement block to hide it from the guards.

Ojeda described all the escapees as subversives, and said several of them were convicted in a September 7, 1986, ambush of Pinochet's motorcade south-east of Santiago.

Pinochet was unhurt but five bodyguards were killed and 11 were wounded in the attack, carried out by the pro-communist Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front.

Quayle briefs on La tam

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (AP): US Vice-President Dan Quayle, home from a tour of Latin America, is proclaiming a bright future for Panama even as some nations in the region refuse to recognise its US-installed government.

Jamaica underscored its refusal Monday on the last stop of Quayle's three-day, three-nation trip.

Quayle yesterday briefed President George Bush on his visits to Honduras, Panama and Jamaica, and gave him "a number of ideas on pushing US policy forward" in the region, said the vice-president's Press Secretary, David Beckwith.

Quayle said earlier he gave Bush a "very upbeat" report on his visit.

But he had sent Quayle to smooth the negative feelings aroused throughout the region when US troops invaded Panama to oust former leader Gen. Manuel Noriega, now facing drug trial in the United States. Most of the Latin nations felt the invasion was a violation of Panama's sovereignty.

Quayle acknowledged his visit had not reversed those sentiments.

The vice-president acknowledged that while the United States is pressing for other Central American countries to recognise the government of President Guillermo Endara, Jamaica and Venezuela are insisting that elections be held there to legitimate Endara.

"As far as we're concerned he's legitimate now," Quayle told reporters flying home with him from Kingston.

The election last May 7, which observers said Endara won but which was invalidated by Noriega "was a free and fair election," Quayle said.

Bush backs ban on torture

Ratification sought for UN act

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (AP): A foreign policy adviser to President George Bush joined human rights activists yesterday in pushing for Senate ratification of a UN convention banning torture, but Sen. Jesse Helms expressed reservations about the measure.

Abraham D. Sofaer, the US State Department's legal adviser, told the Senate Foreign Relations committee the Bush government "places a high priority on early ratification of this important human rights treaty for substantive as well as symbolic reasons."

While the convention "breaks little new ground" and would be unnecessary in the United States, Sofaer said it would put the United States in the forefront of the issue.

Nevertheless, Sofaer said the United States would insist on some "protective measures" in the convention, which makes all acts of torture criminal offences and requires parties to extradite those accused of torture.

A two-thirds vote of the Senate is required for ratification, but the foreign relations committee must first vote on the issue.

Helms, the panel's ranking Republican, said he wanted to hold more discussions with the president's office before a vote is

scheduled. President Bush also is a Republican, but the opposition Democrats control the legislature.

"Nobody favours torture," Helms said, but said he was disturbed that countries such as Afghanistan, Bulgaria, China and the Soviet Union have ratified the convention, countries Helms said have promoted serious human rights abuses.

The convention has been ratified by 55 nations, including Libya, a nation the United States has accused of promoting terrorism.

Twenty-two nations have signed the treaty, indicating they intend to ratify it.

Quizzed about Libya's membership, Sofaer said the United States would use the convention as a forum to promote change in places like Libya.

The torture convention came into force on June 26, 1987. Under the convention, a committee of 10 experts was established with power to investigate allegations of torture and receive reports.

A number of human rights and other groups have supported the convention, among them Amnesty International, the US Catholic Conference and B'Nai B'Rith International, and the American Bar Association.

Avianca crash: pilot blamed

MELVILLE, New York, Jan 31, (AP): The pilot of the Avianca flight that crashed killing 73 people had complete discretion in determining whether his Boeing 707 needed to land immediately because fuel was short, an investigator said yesterday.

Barry Trotter of the National Transportation Safety Board, the investigator in charge of the crash probe, said Avianca does not require pilots to declare an emergency when levels drop below a certain point.

A possible miscommunication between controllers has been raised as a contributor to the crash, although federal officials defended the controllers on Monday.

A final report on the cause of the crash is not expected for at least 12 months.

Investigators said Monday that tapes show the crew warned regional air traffic controllers that their fuel was low as they circled over New Jersey about 45 minutes before the crash.

The information was not explicitly relayed to the local controllers who were to guide the plane to Kennedy. The plane apparently ran out of gas before it slammed into a hillside Thursday on New York's Long Island.

The captain, Laureano Cayula Hoyes, was one of the 73 people killed. Eighty-six people survived.

The captain also asked for "priority" to land rather than declaring an "emergency" in telling the controller he could only stay in hold for another 15 minutes.

Trotter said the controller responded to the priority request by moving the flight from a holding pattern to an approach pattern, although the plane was not moved to the first slot among approaching planes. The plane's 37-minute wait during approach was not unusual due to the heavy traffic and bad weather, he said.

An American Airlines jet was brought in shortly before the crash, when its pilot, told controllers it had just 14 minutes of fuel remaining.

Cocaine
On Long Island, Nassau county police said a second survivor had apparently swallowed condoms filled with what was believed to be cocaine.

US drug officials earlier said the Bogota-to-New York flight, particularly those that stop in the drug-smuggling capital of Medellin — used to be known among narcotics agents as "air cocaine."

In the drug smuggling investigation, Nassau county police said officials at the Nassau County Medical Centre in East Meadow told police that Antonio Zuluaga, 46, of Columbia had passed 14 condoms containing a white powder resembling cocaine late Monday and early yesterday.

Zuluaga was the second survivor of the flight found to have swallowed packets of what was believed to be cocaine. Surgeons found four packets in another man's intestine when they operated on him Friday at the North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset.

Doctors said X-rays showed there could be at least another pound of cocaine in the unidentified patient's body. They said they were afraid to operate for fear one of the condoms would break, giving him an overdose that could kill him.

Monday, NTSB member Lee Dickinson said tapes of cockpit conversations revealed that crew members never used the word "emergency," but said they needed "priority" when making their second landing attempt after aborting the first.

Lawsuit
A man and his young son who survived the Avianca jet crash filed a \$20.5 million lawsuit yesterday, accusing the Colombian airline of negligence.

The lawsuit filed in federal court was apparently the first stemming from the crash in Cve Neck, New York, Thursday night which killed 73 people and injured 85.

The lawsuit alleges Avianca failed to provide a safe, airworthy aircraft and competent crew.

US fields laser technology in high-tech war against drug cartels

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (Reuters): The United States has begun using laser technology in its war against Latin America's multibillion-dollar illicit drug cartels.

Experts say that Laser devices are part of an arsenal of experimental gadgets ranging from cocaine-detecting sensors to high-tech monitors used to listen in on cellular telephones.

In the latest deployment of advanced equipment, the US Customs Service is fielding specially developed Laser rangefinders that detect false walls and hollow beams in cargo

hidden in containers is to unpack them — a laborious process that takes eight agents a full day. In contrast, one operator using the new device can scan a container within minutes.

The five-pouged (two-kg) device was developed by Schwartz Electro-Optics Inc, an Orlando, Florida, firm that works for the US military and commercial companies.

According to Phil Bovbjerg, who led the team which designed the instrument, five of the units have been delivered to customs at \$9,000 each. Another five are being built before large-scale

production.

Stressing the need for more research and development to fight high-tech smugglers, William Bennett, told reporters in Miami recently his office was pressing for a "cocaine counter" that would detect drugs the way a gas counter registers radioactivity.

No details of that device are known. According to officials of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), attempts to replace the sensitive noses of drug-sniffing dogs with technology have so far proved unsuccessful.

AP/WIDEWORLD

Greece urges US to maintain military aid ratio

ATHENS, Jan 31, (AP): The government insisted that the United States maintain the present ratio in military aid to Greece and Turkey, following Washington's decision to close down two of its military bases in Greece.

"Greece insists and has both the intention and the ability to seek and impose the maintenance of the 7:10 ratio," government spokesman Prokopis Pavlopoulos said. He was commenting on Athens press reports that the ratio might be affected by the closure of the bases.

Under terms of a 1983 defence and economic co-operation agreement that expired in Dec 1988, Greece receives \$350 million annually in aid, while

Nato ally Turkey receives \$500 million.

Defence Minister Tzannetakis, announcing Washington's proposal to close down two major bases in Greece, said Monday that the aid ratio would not be affected and would remain open to negotiation in any new defence agreement.

The Greek Parliament put off by two days a scheduled Monday vote on a six-month extension of the 1983 agreement.

US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney on Monday proposed closing or "realigning" more than 60 military bases in the United States and 14 bases overseas.

Public reaction to Cheney's

Top commando, Cheney at odds over defence budget cut

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (UPI): Gen. James Lindsay, head of special operations command, disagreed yesterday with Defence Secretary Dick Cheney's decision to cancel the V-22 Osprey aircraft programme and said it would limit US command capability.

"I want something that can go about 750 miles (1,200 km) deep, put people in and later on pick them up and bring them back," Lindsay said. "I need a platform of some kind that will permit me to infiltrate deep and, more importantly, extricate deep."

proposal to relocate the Hellenikon Air Base and to close the Nea Makri naval communications station, both near Athens, has been muted.

Newspapers have concen-

"Now, if the V-22 is finally cancelled, as it appears it may be, then I'll have to acquire something else," he said.

The country's top military commando said he "argued very hard" to Cheney and the defence resources board that takes off and lands like a helicopter but flies like a plane.

"I had my day in court more than once... and I lost," Lindsay said at a breakfast meeting with defence reporters.

Asked if the loss of the V-22 would detract from

the capability of his commandos, Lindsay replied, "Yeah, you could put it that way."

For the second consecutive year, Cheney proposed in his defence budget the cancellation of the V-22 — a politically popular marine corps programme that congress insisted on keeping alive last year with \$255 million in research money.

The Pentagon has invested \$2.5 billion in the programme and has six aircraft built, some undergoing flight tests. The Pentagon had planned to buy 602 Ospreys at a cost of \$27 billion.

night by leftist peace activists demanding the removal of all US military installations.

Under Cheney's proposal two major bases will remain on the island of Crete, as will the 20

minor support installations spread throughout the country. The proposal also did not clarify whether the Hellenikon base's functions will be relocated in Greece.

Greece denies trial political

ATHENS, Jan 31, (AP): Greece yesterday denied Turkish charges that the trial of a Muslim minority was politically motivated.

A court in the northern town of Komotini sentenced local politicians Ahmet Sadik and Ibrahim Sherif to 18 months in prison on Friday. Members of the Muslim minority protested the verdict and were attacked by Christians.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry denounced the court decision as "a serious and intentional provocation," leading to an exchange of messages with Athens.

Greek Foreign Minister Antonis Samaras said yesterday that, "Ankara maintains that Sadik's trial was a mockery and calls it a 'political trial.' Perhaps it has been misled in this baseless characterisation by what happens in its own country."

Usual

"Sadik's trial was not held by a state security court, as is usual in neighbouring (Turkey) but in a civil court," he said in a statement.

Turkish Ambassador Gurdur Aktan visited the Greek Foreign Ministry last evening to discuss the situation in Komotini. State television, citing unidentified sources, said Aktan pressed on a request that the two men be released from prison.

Turkish State Minister Mehmet Yazar, in an address to parliament in Ankara, asked Greece to release the two men and allow them to run freely in elections scheduled for April.

Police said Monday that 17 Christians and four Muslims were slightly injured in scuffles and that 12 youths were arrested after smashing scores of shop windows belonging to Muslims. They said that life had returned to normal in Komotini yesterday.

Sadik and Sherif were convicted of publishing campaign pamphlets claiming that the minority in Greece comprises "Turkish-Muslims."

Convicted

Greece recognises the Muslims as a religious and not an ethnic minority.

Government spokesman Prokopis Pavlopoulos said Sadik and Sherif "are Greek citizens convicted for violating the law prohibiting provocation or incitement to violence among citizens."

The Turkish Foreign Ministry summoned the Greek ambassador in Ankara on Monday and told him that Turkey expected security measures to stop the attacks on Muslims.

Pavlopoulos said in a statement that, "the government has condemned every action which harms social peace and the unity of the population of Komotini, and has taken all the appropriate measures to bring things back to normal in the region. The measures have already borne fruit."

Rumour

Witnesses said Christians attacked the Muslims Monday after hearing a rumour that a Christian had died in the town hospital after he was attacked by a Muslim fellow patient on Sunday during an argument over the trial.

A hospital official said yesterday the man was comatose and not dead. The assailant has been charged with attempted murder.



Greek Muslims, Christians clash

Greek Orthodox Christian protesters blocked by riot police Jan 30, to avoid clashes with Muslims in the north town of Komotini. Some 19 people were injured during a Muslim



demonstration against the sentencing of former Greek Muslim deputy Ahmet Said to 18 months in jail. (right) A Muslim woman walks past a wrecked store on Jan 30.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Marx brothers rediscovered BBC airs script

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): Radio comedy scripts written by the late Groucho Marx and his brother Chico that were found by a researcher in the US Library of Congress were given an airing for the first time in 58 years.

A live audience at a BBC studio broke into rapturous applause at the end of the yesterday evening performance in which British actors, playing the roles of the two American comedians, read the scripts of the "Flywheel, Shyster and Flywheel" show.

In the scripts, the Groucho character Flywheel is an unscrupulous lawyer and Chico is his even more unscrupulous assistant, Ravelli. BBC producer Dirk Maggs said the scripts had not been heard since they were broadcast in the United States in 1932.

He said the scripts were discovered about a year ago in the Library of Congress in Washington by researcher Mike Barson and that the BBC had successfully bid for exclusive rights to them.

He did not explain the legal intricacies of the deal and did not say how much the BBC paid.

The scripts for "Flywheel, Shyster and Flywheel" were part of a series that Groucho and Chico Marx made for Standard Oil but which were never recorded, Maggs said.

Elusive pulsar spotted again: European astronomers Monday in Santiago reported they appear to have confirmed the existence of a baffling pulsar in debris from a brilliant supernova, backing the findings of a US team whose discovery challenged basic views of the universe.

Astronomers at the European Southern Observatory in northern Chile said measurements of infrared radiation point to an extremely dense, pulsating star, or pulsar, within the remains of a supernova discovered Feb 24, 1987.

Supernovas are massive stars that explode as they reach the end of their lives. Supernova 1987A was the closest and brightest seen in more than 400 years, and was the first detected early enough to study its development. (UPI)

False bomb threat: A false bomb threat on Tuesday forced a Royal Air Maroc Boeing 727 flying from Casablanca to turn back and land at London's Heathrow airport, the airport said in a statement.

It said the telephoned threat was made to the Moroccan airline's London office but gave no details about what was said.

The plane took off from Heathrow at 4.36 pm (1636 GMT) for Casablanca. Following the bomb threat, it turned back to Heathrow and landed safely at 4.59 pm (1659 GMT), the statement said.

The plane taxied to a remote part of the airport, the passengers left it, and their baggage was taken off. (AP)

US angry with UN chief: US officials expressed anger Tuesday with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for renegeing on what they claim was a promise to issue a report on human rights conditions in Cuba.

But Perez de Cuellar's spokesman said he had made no such commitment and that the US officials with whom he spoke misunderstood him.

The State Department said that US officials asked Perez de Cuellar to make a report on his assessment of the rights situation in Cuba after he had indicated that he would prepare such a report if asked to do so by one or more UN member states. (AP)

3 hurt as store roof collapses: The roof and front wall of a three-story brick department store collapsed with a roar under the weight of more than a foot (30 cm) of newly fallen snow Tuesday, injuring three people caught in the building, police said.

Firefighters called to inspect the flat, leaking roof evacuated about 10 people from Remy's store just minutes before the cave-in, police said.

"It would have been a lot more serious if they had not been moved out of there. I think there's a good chance there would have been fatalities," said Dexter police officer Allen Emerson. (UPI)

Honduran freighter seized: The coast guard seized a Honduran freighter and detained its eight-man crew Tuesday after federal agents found about 1,100 pounds of cocaine aboard the vessel 400 miles southwest of Miami, a coast guard official said.

The coast guard seized the 195-foot freighter Kaitia Monday evening after the agents found 362 numbered bricks of cocaine, worth an estimated \$11.5 million wholesale, in its forward hold. (AP)

Greek banker fears for his life

BOSTON, Jan 31, (AP): Greek banker, saying he fears for his life, pleaded with a federal judge yesterday to save him from extradition to Greece to face charges in a multi-million dollar embezzlement scheme that helped topple his country's Socialist government.

A judge heard oral arguments from both sides yesterday and took the case under advisement, asking attorneys to provide him with more information before he makes a decision.

George Koskotas, appearing before US Judge Douglas Woodlock, referred to the assassination last year of Pavlos Karamanlis, a Greek parliament member. The terrorist group that claimed responsibility for the killing accused their victim of having connections with Koskotas.

"If the Greek government cannot provide protection for members of parliament, what are they going to do when I am extradited?" Koskotas said.

Koskotas, former chairman of the Bank of Crete, is accused by Greek authorities of embezzling \$200 million from the bank between 1986 to 1988. He has claimed former Premier Andreas Papandreu coerced him into placing the money into accounts controlled by the premier's Panhellenic Socialist Movement.

Papandreu, who was voted out of office last year amid the embezzlement scandal, was indicted in September on bribery charges.

A US magistrate ruled last year that Koskotas could be extradited, but the case was appealed to federal district court.

Judge Woodlock raised doubts regarding part of the case made by the US attorney's office, which is seeking extradition.

One of the charges against Koskotas is his alleged use of fake travel documents, but Woodlock said the charge was a "questionable extraditable offence" under terms of a US treaty with Greece that permits extradition.

But Politan, a day before the money was due, gave him an extension. The judge said he wanted to give the SEC time to answer arguments by Antar's lawyers that the very act of repatriating the money might violate Antar's constitutional right against self-incrimination.

Politan set a hearing for Feb 7. The SEC sued Antar and other top officials of the defunct retailing chain for insider trading.

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Women to stay till base closes

Greenham Common

GREENHAM COMMON, England, Jan 31, (AP): Pam Jones, one of the women who have been living for nine years in a tattered tent on a muddy patch of land for nine years, said she would stay at the American air base, now up for closure under US defence cuts.

"It's a time of celebration," said Ms. Jones, surrounded by a discoloured clutter of broken chairs, plastic sheeting and the dying embers of a fire.

But she isn't about to leave. The base isn't due to close until 1991, and Ms. Jones says: "We'll see it through to the end. No one will ever forget Greenham Common."

Greenham Common has been a US base for nearly 50 years. It's where Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower saw off his D-day invasion troops in World War II, and it has been a rallying point for the anti-nuclear-weapon movement ever since it became a base for cruise missiles.

Now it is a symbol of the changing face of Europe — one of 14 of foreign military installations which US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney is proposing to close.

Cheney's announcement on Monday was a blow to many of the local people in the wealthy, conservative Berkshire countryside around Greenham Common, 50 miles (80 km) west of London. The base employs nearly 200 Britons and spends \$40 million a year locally.

"We'll miss the Americans economically and we'll miss

them as people," said 68-year-old Ted Asbith, chatting in the Ploughman, a local pub.

"When you play poker you deal from strength — and that's what the Americans did here and it worked... it's all been worthwhile."

Mostly, the locals disdain the women, but had more or less learned to put up with the protest.

"They became used to the cumbersome launchers trundling through the country lanes on exercises that became known as 'walkies'."

The big peace demonstrations of the 1980s, when Greenham Common was the focus of anti-nuclear protest in Western Europe, are just a memory.

As for the women, "they're an absolute nuisance and they've achieved nothing," said Asbith.

But Ms. Jones, 35, a foreign secretary who first camped at Greenham Common three years ago, disagrees.

"Women have gained enormous strength here, and it will always be a symbol of the peace movement," she said.

Half the 110 cruise missiles deployed at Greenham Common have gone since the signing of the 1987 US-Soviet agreement to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe. The rest will be out by mid-1991.

After that, under the new Pentagon proposals, Greenham Common will become a standby base, non-operational, with about 400 American personnel, compared with 1,645 now.

Reactor defect found

Nuke-sub check

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): The Ministry of Defence said last night that all the Royal Navy's 20 nuclear-powered submarines will be examined after a reactor defect was found in one of them.

A ministry statement said the "technical defect," which it did not describe, was found during a routine refit and the programme of technical inspections of other submarines was a "prudent precaution."

Press Association, the British domestic news agency, said the defect was most likely a hairline fracture in the primary cooling system, which has to endure considerable temperatures and pressures.

The agency said the fault was discovered during a refit of a Valiant Class submarine at Devonport Dockyard in Plymouth, southwest England.

The Valiant Class are the navy's oldest nuclear submarines, built between 1966 and 1971. They include HMS Conqueror, which sank the Argentine battle cruiser Belgrano during the 1982 war over the Falkland Islands.

Conqueror is the only nuclear submarine of any country known to have seen action.

New York mafia trial

NEW YORK, Jan 31, (UPI): A member of a murderous west side Irish gang testified about a meeting with Gambino organised crime family members to arrange the shooting of a union official who incurred the wrath of reputed Mafia boss John Gotti.

Gotti, 49, allegedly among the most powerful of mafia dons, is standing trial along with co-defendant Anthony Guerri, 60, on assault and conspiracy charges, accused of contracting out the punishment of the union leader to the gang, known as the Westies. The prosecution contends carpenters union official John O'Connor was shot in the buttocks in retaliation for vandalising a mafia-owned restaurant that employed non-union labour.

James McElroy, returning to the witness stand following colourful testimony last week, testified he was introduced to Gotti by James Conanan, chief of the Westies, at the wake of Frank Decicco, a Gambino family capo, in April 1986.

McElroy said that, a short time later, several Westies members went to a Soho restaurant where Conanan told them, "they want somebody whacked."

Assistant district attorney Michael Cherkasky interrupted to ask, "who is 'they'?"

"They" is John Gotti," McElroy said.



John Gotti gestures. (Reuters wirephoto)

Crazy Eddie wins stay on funds return

NEWARK, New Jersey, Jan 31, (AP): Eddie Antar, founder of the Crazy Eddie Electronics chain, has gained a reprieve from having to repatriate \$52 million from Israel under scrutiny by regulators in their insider trading case against him.

US District Judge Nicholas H. Politan last week granted a request by the Securities and Exchange Commission and ordered Antar to bring the funds back from Israeli bank accounts.

But Politan, a day before the money was due, gave him an extension. The judge said he wanted to give the SEC time to answer arguments by Antar's lawyers that the very act of repatriating the money might violate Antar's constitutional right against self-incrimination.

Politan set a hearing for Feb 7. The SEC sued Antar and other top officials of the defunct retailing chain for insider trading.

Thousands of British workers walk out over ambulance pay dispute

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): Thousands of British workers stopped work for 15 minutes yesterday to support a pay dispute by ambulance workers.

Musicians from the city of Birmingham symphony orchestra put down their instruments, and Labour Party lawmakers walked out of a parliamentary committee meeting.

Union negotiator Roger Poole told an estimated 2,000 people who marched along the River Thames in south London the national demonstrations were "a massive show of people power."

The dispute between ambulance workers and the

government began Sept 5 when Britain's 22,500 ambulance drivers started refusing to work overtime.

Five months later, most Britons are without routine ambulance services, relying on taxis and relatives with cars to take non-emergency cases to hospitals. Emergency calls are diverted to the police, army or red cross.

About 400 protesters, mostly students, halted traffic in the Aldwych, central London, at midday. When the demonstration ended, crowds broke into applause and many stalled motorists honked their

horns in support.

Some of Britain's most popular television actors and actresses collected money for the ambulance workers from shoppers in London's West End, and others stopped rehearsals as a gesture of support.

The Birmingham symphony musicians joined ambulance staff and members in the public demonstration in the centre of the central England city, union spokesman John Dempsey said.

Labour Members of Parliament left a parliamentary committee meeting to join party leader Neil Kinnock at a special meeting in Parliament to dis-

cuss the ambulance workers dispute.

Ambulance crews, who earn £10,078 (\$16,630) a year, want 11.4 per cent more, plus the automatic inflation-linked raises given firefighters and policemen.

The government has offered 6.5 per cent, and bonuses for staff who have paramedical skills.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told the House of Commons on Tuesday the government has shown a willingness to negotiate and that "it is the ambulance workers who have not moved at all." She rejected calls for an independent inquiry.

INTERNATIONAL



Having a glimpse of Pope

Police keep the crowd behind barriers as Pope John Paul II arrives at Bobo Dioulassou, Burkina Faso, to celebrate a Mass. Pope later left for Chad, last stop of his African tour. (Reuters wirephoto)

I am a man of dialogue: Pope

NDJAMENA, Chad, Jan 31. (UPI) Pope John Paul II, in war-weary Chad on the final leg of his trip across drought-ridden west and Central Africa, reassured Muslims he is "a man of dialogue and a messenger of peace."

The Pope was scheduled today to celebrate a Mass at the peace stadium in the city of Moundou, 250 miles (400 km) southwest of the capital, and preside over an open-air prayer ceremony in Sarb, a provincial capital. Thursday, an open air Mass at Ndjamena and a meeting with Muslim leaders highlight the final day of his trip before he leaves for Rome.

The pontiff, greeted yesterday at Ndjamena international airport by President Hissene Habre and thousands of enthusiastic residents, praised Chad's determination to work for "development, unity and peace in national reconciliation."

"I undertake this pastoral visit, I... come to meet my Christian brothers and sisters, just as I come to meet representatives of the traditional African religion and the loyal followers of Islam, which has a great number of believers and participants in Chad," the Pope said.

"I salute them and assure them that I come here as a man of dialogue and a messenger of peace," he said.

The Pope arrived in Chad after visiting Burkina Faso, where he continued the ecumenical theme of his swing through Africa by calling for dialogue between Catholics, Protestants, Muslims and followers of traditional religions.

In a farewell ceremony yesterday at the airport in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the pontiff said he hoped the nation would develop economically to assure "everyone the dignity of life, the means to meet the needs of his family, the possibility to be trained and make his qualities fruitful."

Greeted at Ndjamena international airport by a military honour guard and a 21-gun salute, John Paul continued his theme of improving ecumenical relations but also focused on Chad's continuing efforts to recover from its 14-year war with Libya and Libyan-backed rebels.

The conflict, over the mineral-rich 100-mile-wide (160 km-wide) Aouzou strip in the north of the country, effectively ended with a ceasefire Sept 11, 1987, and restoration of diplomatic relations with Tripoli June 6, 1988.

The Pope also praised church relations with authorities in Chad, where 44 per cent of the population are Muslims, 33 per cent are Christians and 23 per cent are animist.

"Permit me to say how much I appreciate that the Chad republic, in the constitution it recently adopted, guarantees... the freedoms of opinion, speech, conscience and cult," he said.

Senate okays China trade curbs

WASHINGTON, Jan 31. (AP) The US Senate voted 98 to 0 yesterday for legislation that includes a series of trade sanctions against China, but permits President George Bush to waive them.

The bill approved yesterday would permit Bush to terminate any of the sanctions if significant political reform occurs in China or if Bush finds waiver of the sanctions is "in the national interest."

The vote sent the bill to Bush, who was expected to sign it into law.

The sanctions, which were prompted by Beijing's crackdown last June on pro-democracy demonstrators, are part of a \$9.7 billion measure authorising activities of the State Department for fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

The legislation would suspend financial underwriting for US companies doing business in China through the overseas private investment corporation, aid under the trade and development programme, issuance of

China tightens grip on mass organisations

BEIJING, Jan 31. (Reuters) China's Communist Party announced today a tightening of its grip over labour, youth and women's organisations that failed to stop their members from joining mass anti-government protests last year.

A central committee document released by the official New China News Agency bars any form of dissent in the organisation, which represents more than 140 million people.

"On no account is any organisation allowed to raise political advocacy against the party," the document said.

"By no means will any political organisation opposing the four cardinal principles or undermining state law be allowed to exist. It must be banned..."

as soon as it is discovered."

The "Four Cardinal Principles" are the leading role of the party, the dictatorship of the proletariat, adherence to Socialism, and Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tse-Tung thought.

The party document was aimed at the 93 million members of the All China Federation of Trade Unions, the Communist Youth League, which musters over 48 million, and the All China Women's Federation, which has representatives nationwide.

Last May, members and staff of the organisations, some waving banners, took part in pro-democracy demonstrations that at times drew a million people into the streets of Beijing.

Most of the sanctions reflect actions Bush took in the wake of the bloody suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing on June 4.

Curbs on blacks go

Pools, bus, business desegregated

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 31. (Reuters) The South African capital of Pretoria has voted to desegregate facilities such as swimming pools and bus services and to let blacks run businesses in central trading areas for the first time.

Under the decision by the city council last night, blacks will still not be allowed to own property in the city or to live there.

The move followed Johannesburg's decision to desegregate all municipal facilities. Yesterday the Johannesburg City Council ratified an earlier decision to allow blacks to operate businesses throughout the country's largest city.

The measures by the two cities must be confirmed by the white-led government of President F.W. de Klerk, but approval is certain.

Angola mounts massive attack

Savimbi rushes back

LISBON, Jan 31. (Reuters) The Angolan Army has reported a major breakthrough against rebels defending the south-eastern stronghold of Mavinga, the Portuguese news agency Lusa said today.

Lusa quoted a military source as saying more than 500 Unita rebels were killed in one of the biggest government operations of the 15-year-old civil war.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi broke off an important West European tour last night, saying he had to return to Angola to lead his men in battle.

"Lusa said government troops led by armoured cars had broken through rebel defences, crossed the Lomba River and advanced to about 12 km (eight miles) from Mavinga."

"Now we have only to pass the third defensive line, and so the fall of Mavinga is only a matter of hours," Lusa quoted the government source as saying.

No Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) spokesman was immediately available to comment.

Mavinga is one of the most important towns held by the rebels. It has an underground hospital and blocks all the way to Unita's bush base at Jamba.

Fighting earlier this month forced Savimbi to postpone his European tour. But Unita then said it had contained the assault and Savimbi went ahead with his trip.

He told a news conference in Lisbon last night the government had used 14 MiG warplanes in the battle in the biggest bombing attack since the civil war began in 1975.

"I am leaving for Africa immediately, they need my support," he said. A Unita aide said he flew out at 4 am (0400 GMT).

The tour was important for Unita as proof of the greater diplomatic acceptance of Savimbi since he and his rival, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, met last June in an abortive peace meeting brokered by African leaders.

Savimbi said the guerrillas had shot down two MiG-23s and a helicopter. But the Lusa report said several military sources had denied this.

"It's the first time in 14 years that we've had these sweeping raids," said the rebel leader.

A government official contacted by telephone in the Angolan capital of Luanda declined to confirm Savimbi's claim of intensive bombing raids.

Pretoria announced it would eliminate discrimination in municipal facilities such as libraries, nature reserves, swimming pools, city halls and bus services. Cities in South Africa are still officially reserved for white residents under apartheid, although the restrictions are increasingly ignored in Johannesburg.

"We are moving towards a discrimination-free society," said Johannesburg city councillor Marietta Marx.

Thousands of anti-apartheid protesters marched peacefully through Cape Town today after a magistrate defused a threatened showdown with police by granting an anonymous application for the demonstration to go ahead.

Dissident leaders said the march was a rehearsal for another planned for parliament on Friday, two hours before De Klerk delivers a crucial policy address.

Allan Boesak, Cape Town-based president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, led demonstrators under a banner condemning a rebel England cricket tour.

But Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) spokeswoman Cheryl Carolus said in an interview the main purpose was to protest against recent cases of police brutality.

A black man was found hanging in his cell at Johannesburg city police headquarters, police said today.

A policeman was shot and killed and two black men were stabbed to death in black townships near the Indian Ocean port of Durban, police said today.

Limited self-rule rejected

BAGUIO, Philippines, Jan 31. (Reuters) Tribesmen in the northern Philippines have soundly rejected a government offer of limited self-rule for their gold-rich mountain region, voting results showed today.

Partial returns in yesterday's autonomy referendum showed a big rejection of the autonomy plan in four of five provinces and in Baguio city, the regional capital, while "no" votes were also winning, by a closer margin, in the fifth province.

The region, rich in timber and gold, has been a battleground for a decade between government forces symbolising Manila's central authority and communist guerrillas opposed to the presence of multinational companies in the area.

About a million tribesmen, representing fiercely independent tribal groups, live in the area alongside a minority of Christian settlers who control much of the region's business.

Unidentified men exploded a home-made bomb outside the offices of the election commission late last night while poll officials were counting the results but no one was injured.

"Everybody scampered for safety. They're trying to scare us," said regional election commission chief Felimon Asperia, whose car was torched on Monday, eve of the voting.

Police had no suspects but Asperia said he believed the incidents were perpetrated by groups which thought the commission was favouring autonomy.

The autonomy plan would place the mountainous Cordillera region under a semi-autonomous government which would get a substantial share of taxes from big mining companies in the area as well as limited authority in regional economic planning.

But Manila would provide the main direction.

No major troop cutback in Asia

Cheney sends message to Philippines

MANILA, Jan 31. (Agencies) Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said in a letter to his Philippine counterpart released yesterday he saw no changes in Soviet forces that would allow a significant reduction of the US military presence in Asia and the Pacific.

Cheney's letter to Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos was released by President Corason Aquino when she was asked by reporters to respond to the announcement on Monday of plans to close 12 military bases overseas, three of them in South Korea. The proposal includes the realignment of forces at the San Miguel naval communications centre in Zamboanga province, northwest of Manila.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, responding to the proposed US reductions of military forces in Asia, said yesterday the move would not affect planned exploratory talks this spring on the future of US military bases in the Philippines.

The Philippines hosts the giant Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval complex and four smaller facilities, including San Miguel, under a 1947 treaty expiring in 1991. Any new agreement requires approval by the Philippine Senate, where anti-US sentiment is strong.

The 1947 treaty covering Clark and Subic expires in 1991. Exploratory talks on whether to hold formal negotiations to extend or terminate the agreement are scheduled for March or April.

At a gathering of businessmen, former US ambassador to the Philippines Stephen Bosworth dismissed fears Cheney's announcement will affect the business climate or political stability in Asia.

Bosworth, president of the US-Japan foundation, said the process will be done "very gradually, in a very calculated fashion and in close consultation" with US allies in order not to leave a "vacuum."

"Such a vacuum could well be seen by prospective investors as a potential source of instability,"

Bernardo Villegas, head of the respected economic think tank Centre for Research and Communications, said a stable political climate for investors remains in the Philippines as long as the giant Clark Air Base and Subic Bay naval complex are not dismantled.

Cheney said he will discuss deployment of US forces in the Pacific during a mid-February trip to South Korea, Japan and the Philippines, but he declined to forecast any major cuts in the region.

"I will talk with all of those governments about our current deployments in the area, about world developments, about what kinds of changes, if any, might be called for or justified," he said in an interview.

Congress is calling for more defence spending by Pacific allies, especially Japan, and Cheney told news agency reporters that military burden-sharing would also be on the agenda.

Cheney will visit Seoul, Manila and Tokyo during the February 11-23 trip. A final schedule was being worked out but Cheney also plans to make stops in Hawaii, Okinawa and Hong Kong.

Unlike Europe, Cheney said, many of the US troops in the Pacific region are deployed there because of historic commitments with allies and without regard to the Soviet presence.

"I didn't say that," he emphasised when asked if he was ruling out troop cuts in the region. He stressed that the situation was different there from Western Europe, where the United States is prepared to respond to Soviet force reductions in Eastern Europe.

The United States currently has about 49,900 troops stationed in Japan, 44,500 in South Korea and 14,700 in the Philippines.

The Defence Department is under pressure from Congress to make at least some cost-cutting reductions in Pacific forces amid a financial and political controversy over whether to close more bases within the United States.

"Some of our forces in the Pacific have missions relative to the Soviet Union," Cheney said. "But a lot of them are deployed there without regard to the Soviet presence or activities."

Bodies dug up

'Spies' killed

TACLOBAN, Philippines, Jan 31. (Reuters) Soldiers dug up today the remains of 25 people allegedly killed by communist guerrillas in the central Philippines, officials said.

The skeletons were found in La Paz town, Leyte province, some 590 km (370 miles) south of Manila. Colonel Wilfredo Rectator, deputy chief of military forces in the eastern Visayas region of the Philippines, said.

All were killed in a purge by communist rebels on suspicion they were military informers, said Rectator.



Better relations

Kim Young-Sam, a leader of the newly expanded governing party, pledged yesterday to promote South Korea's relations with the Soviet Union in hopes of easing tension with rival North Korea.

Kim, a former opposition leader whose Reunification Democratic Party last week decided to merge with the ruling Democratic Justice Party and another opposition party, said better relations with communist nations allied with North Korea "would lay a solid foundation for national unification."

Kim plans to visit the Soviet Union in mid-March.

Mongolians do it their way

Cry for democracy

ULANBATOR, Jan 31. (Reuters) In the vast land of Mongolia, where sheep outnumber people six to one and Genghis Khan is a superstar, democracy demonstrations are bound to be unusual.

Oriental in appearance, Mongolians were orphaned from their Asian family by the Soviet Red Army 69 years ago and then adopted by Moscow into the communist fold.

Now, in a drive to cast off communism, activists are stressing Mongolia's oriental heritage and shunning the path to democracy taken by their former socialist brothers in Eastern Europe.

"We are not Eastern Europeans or Russians. We are Mongols," said Gengorjavyn Boshight, a 50-year-old leader of the newly-formed Mongolian Democratic Association.

"Maybe some European will come here and say we are all primitive. Let him say it. He too has the right to be mistaken," said Boshight, a former aide to a senior communist government official.

The movement was founded in a dingy classroom at the Mongolia State University in December last year and since then has staged four popular rallies in the capital Ulan Bator and one in an outlying town.

"Mongolians to your horses," read a banner fluttering at one rally where several thousand people turned out muffled in furs against temperatures of minus 30 degrees Centigrade (minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit).

The phrase is an ancient battle cry used by Genghis Khan to rouse his marauding "golden hordes" to feats of slaughter that created the world's biggest land empire in the 13th century.

"Telling Mongolians to get on their horses is symbolic, not literal," said a government tourist guide. "It may seem funny to Europeans but it is serious to us."

The democracy movement venerates Genghis Khan, known more for pillage and rape than liberal democracy, as an outstanding man and has pledged to remove character smears placed on him by the communists.

One prominent member of the movement, a tonsured monk in flowing saffron robes, said he believed Genghis Khan was a closet living Buddha who attained nirvana and now resides in heaven as a Buddhist deity.

"Most people in Mongolia do not know Genghis was a living Buddha because he kept it secret but many monks in this monastery believe it," Dorjigayn Baasan told foreign reporters at Gandan monastery in Ulan Bator.

The monastery, where members of the yellow sect of Buddhist Lamaism chant incantations beside flickering butter lamps, is the only one in Mongolia allowed to function.

Part of the democracy movement's platform is the reopening of some monasteries closed or partially destroyed on the orders of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin between 1937 and 1944.

Mongolia, wedged between the Soviet Union and China, is a landlocked nation of two million people living on a territory three times the size of France. Soviet-built factories belch smoke in polluted towns and 16 tribes of nomadic herdsmen tend some 22 million head of livestock.

Its people, although well-fed and clothed, earn an average monthly wage of 400 tugrug (133 dollars at the official rate but just 13 dollars on the more realistic black market).

This low standard of living is the main cause of disaffection and many people blame communist misrule. But the anger and passion of anti-government protests in Eastern Europe have barely featured here.

Clean chit for Nigerian critic

LAGOS, Jan 31. (AP) The military government dropped criminal charges against one of its leading critics yesterday, and President Gen Ibrahim Babangida said his administration would attempt to muzzle public opinion.

Babangida, in remarks read for him yesterday, said the military "keeps an open door for well-considered, clearly articulated and constructive suggestions."



Casella: reunited

Italian kidnap victim returns home to cheers after two years in captivity

PAVIA, Italy, Jan 31. (UPI) Thousands of cheering citizens greeted 20-year-old student Cesare Casella today when police returned him to his parents after two years in the hands of kidnappers.

Hundreds of honking cars jammed the streets of Pavia, some 20 miles (30 km) south of Milan, where Casella was reunited with his parents at the end of one of Italy's longest and most dramatic kidnappings for ransom.

He was hugged and kissed by his mother Angela, who last June provoked a national outcry when she spent 10 days touring the villages of the bandit-

ridden Aspromonte mountain in Calabria, on the toe of Italy, demanding the release of her son.

"During the last few days I was afraid, because I felt something was about to happen," Cesare Casella, looking tired but in surprisingly good condition, told reporters. "At certain moments I was gripped with fear and felt I would explode. But I always managed to keep myself under control while waiting for something to happen."

Casella arrived in Pavia around 7.30 am (0630 GMT) in a police motorcade after being flown from Calabria to nearby Milan aboard an air force DC9.

Carabinieri (national police) and paratroopers found Casella around 10 pm (2100 GMT) yesterday when he was knocking at the door of an isolated cottage outside the Aspromonte village of Careri to seek help.

Casella told police his kidnappers, apparently panicked by the approach of searching troops, left him chained to a pole in the bed of a mountain stream. He said he managed to uproot the pole and escape, with chains still round his neck and wrists.

Carabinieri officials said they had been tipped off

ITALIA

Glomp critical after double surgery

WARSAW, Jan 31, (Reuters): Poland's Roman Catholic primate, Cardinal Jozef Glomp, who has led the church through a decade of political turmoil, is in serious condition after two operations for a perforated ulcer, medical sources said today.

Glomp, 60, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being taken to hospital with "massive internal bleeding," a priest at his residence said.

The medical sources said he was very weak after another operation on Tuesday night. He visited France last week.

A hospital source refused to give details of the surgery and only said he was in the intensive care unit.

"His health condition is the kind of condition of patients who are in the intensive care unit," the source said.

A church spokesman said Glomp was taken by ambulance from his palace to the hospital.

Glomp, suffered from a gall bladder problem two years ago for which he underwent successful surgery.

Glomp became the primate of Poland in 1981, a few months before the communist authorities imposed martial law in an attempt to crush the Solidarity free trade union.

During the 18 months of martial law, the Roman Catholic church became a safe haven for the Polish opposition.

The church, to which most Poles belong, also served as intermediary in talks between the communists and Solidarity which led to the creation of a Solidarity-led government last September.

Gorby unity stand hailed

BONN, Jan 31, (Reuters): Bonn hailed Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's support for German unity today and pledged to keep its present-day territory in the NATO alliance even after merging with East Germany.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher praised Gorbachev for recognising the popular demand in East Germany for unity and trying to create a stable framework to achieve it.

In his most positive statement yet on reunification, the Soviet leader declared yesterday that German unity — which Moscow has steadfastly opposed since the end of World War Two — was not in doubt but needed careful preparation on all sides.

His statement came as East German leaders, including his guest in Moscow Prime Minister Hans Modrow, began making their first statements for unity after 40 years of opposing it.

"Once again, Gorbachev has proven himself to be a realistic politician who analyses developments in East Germany and the will of its people correctly," Genscher told West German radio.

"He wants to create a stable framework for this development — that must be our interest as well."

For the opposition Social Democrats (SPD), East European expert Egon Bahr called Gorbachev's words a breakthrough.

"There are no longer any differences between our and the Soviet general secretary's views," he said. "It is no longer a question of if, but when, how and what form a unified German state might take."

Gorbachev's statement also sent Frankfurt share prices up sharply this morning. "Anything positive on East Germany is good for the German stock market," one trader said.

Soviet support for the division of Germany, one of Moscow's proudest prizes from World War Two, has long been a crucial hurdle to German reunification.

Before communism collapsed there late last year, East Germany was Moscow's most loyal ally and dependable economic partner. The Kremlin still has about 385,000 troops based there to man the disappearing front-line of the Warsaw Pact.

Genscher and other politicians argued a neutralised Germany would be as destabilising for Europe as a collapsing East Germany and said West German territory must remain in NATO.

"The option of a neutralised Germany is out," Michaela Geiger, foreign policy spokeswoman for Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats, said flatly. "It could become a football to be kicked around by rival power interests."

Modrow said he remained opposed to the prospect of unity but would not rule out the possibility of one Germany.

Modrow, who left Moscow yesterday after a 24-hour visit and meetings with Gorbachev and Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, said Gorbachev appeared to accept that reunification may occur.

At a news conference at the Foreign Ministry, Modrow brushed aside suggestions that East Germany might leave the Soviet-led military alliance.

"The German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union are allies within the Warsaw Pact, which is an international legal document and cannot be cancelled by either party," Modrow said. "It must remain in force in the future. The treaty is the basis of our co-operation."

Modrow said he opposes reunification, because, "It is clear that, when we talk about reunification, we must also talk about the borders of the post-war period."

Without naming West Germany, Modrow made it clear his objection was based on the difficulties West Germany faced in recognising the Oder-Neisse border with Poland.

In acknowledging reunification may occur, Modrow said, "we must be cautious and we must not put down any time limit if we want to move forward and address the issue."

Situation in Kosovo is approaching civil war

Protect Slavs, demand protesting students

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, Jan 31, (Agencies): Ethnic Albanians buried three of their dead today as riot police across the tense province of Kosovo braced for more violence. Officials and Yugoslav media warned the situation was approaching civil war.

Five people were reported killed in clashes with police yesterday, and an Albanian shot dead today bringing to 14 the number of deaths reported since ethnic Albanians seeking an end to 12 months of virtual martial law began battling police Jan 24.



Ethnic Albanians carry the body of a demonstrator killed during the clashes with police in Kosovo. (Reuters wirephoto)

In Belgrade, up to 5,000 students assembled late yesterday in front of the federal Parliament building and demonstrated until early morning, demanding army to go to Kosovo to protect minority Slavs there.

They proclaimed a general strike and demanded the resignation of the "highest organs of the federation" unless what they termed the "nationalist and vandalist rioting of (ethnic Albanian) terrorists" in Kosovo is not halted within 48 hours.

"We shall give our lives, but not Kosovo," they chanted.

They also chanted "Haog Azem Vllasi", referring to the former communist leader of Kosovo who is on trial for allegedly inciting ethnic Albanians to riot nearly a year ago.

The Albanians, who are mostly Muslims, want to regain the autonomy lost when the Serbian republic took control of Kosovo's police, judiciary and education last year. Kosovo is a province within Serbia and borders Albania.

The Slav minority, which includes mainly Christian Serbs and Montenegrins, contends the Albanians were trying to force them from their homeland and that increased control over the region was necessary.

Yesterday, thousands of ethnic Albanians demanding free elections, freedom for political prisoners and the lifting of a state of emergency protested in the Kosovo cities of Malisevo, Podujevo, Urushevac, Orahovac, Kosovska Vitina and several other towns. Strikes were reported at several factories in support of them.

Official media reported five demonstrators were killed.

Three were hurt today. About 30,000 people gathered in the town of Urosevac today for a funeral.

"Kosovo is closer to civil war than it was ever before," said the Oslo-based daily in the city of Sarajevo. "Whether Kosovo will become even bloodier is a question which none can answer. The situation is dramatic and uncertain, and it is hard to predict what will take place within an hour or two, not to mention tomorrow."

Police shot dead an ethnic Albanian in a new outburst of clashes in Yugoslavia's Kosovo province today, Yugoslav television said.

The person was shot in clashes in the town of Stanovac, about 20 km (12 miles) north of the southern province's capital Pristina, it said.

Meanwhile, the Yugoslav Parliament was to start reviewing constitutional amendments out Friday that drop the monopoly of the ruling Communist Party, allow free elections and permit the establishment of competing political parties.

Yugoslavia's six republics must pass judgement on the liberal provisions, revised after an initial version drew the objections of independent-minded Slovenia for giving federal authorities too much clout.

It has already been announced that limits on free speech will be dropped from the list of criminal offences, that people will be free to register political parties without requesting permission from the police and the future elections will be free, starting in April.

The pro-Serb communist leadership of the Kosovo town of Titova Mitrovica said, "unless steps are taken for suppression and protection from terrorist actions of Albanian nationalists and separatists, the situation threatens to grow into civil war."

No talks with Azeris

Volgograd protest

Politburo resigns

MOSCOW, Jan 31, (UPI): A senior Soviet official, saying the Azerbaijani Popular Front was under the control of extremists, ruled out negotiating with the main nationalist group on the crisis in the transcaucasus.

Vyacheslav Mikhailov, an official of the Communist Party Central Committee, sent to the Azerbaijani capital of Baku to deal with the recent conflict, yesterday blamed organised nationalist "flying squads" for pogroms against Armenians and said ordinary citizens did much to stop the slaughter.

Mikhailov, deputy head of the Central Committee's ethnic relations department, said Muslim Azerbaijani "terrorists" organised themselves into squads of 10 or 15 men in an explosion of premeditated killing in the Azerbaijani capital Jan 14-15.

"This action was well thought out," he said.

Mikhailov, who just returned from a visit to Baku, where at least 62 people — mostly Armenians — died in an orgy of ethnic violence, said he could not say categorically that the Azerbaijani Popular Front ordered the killings.

"But the pogroms could not take place without gunmen," he said.

Kremlin official said Moscow favoured a political solution for the crisis but made it clear that the main aim of Soviet authorities in the transcaucasian republic was to restore the authority of the discredited local communist party.

"We need political means to stabilise the situation so that the constitutional bodies of the republic can evaluate the situation correctly and recognise the

part that their own major failings played in the affair," he declared.

He added that stockpiles of weapons were found at Popular Front offices searched by Soviet troops who stormed into Baku Jan 20. Mikhailov said searches also turned up numbers of bank savings books apparently stolen from Armenians.

He said ordinary Azerbaijanis in Baku had protected many Armenians by taking them into their homes.

"This ensured that the pogroms did not take a more awful character," he said.

Beron told Radio Sofia that the opposition coalition, which is negotiating with the communists, will consent to May elections because the communist-dominated Parliament seems unable to

approve substantial reform.

The opposition had in the past sought to delay the balloting until November, contending that May elections would not give it time enough to prepare.

The reformers made a strong showing as the Communist Party congress entered its second of three days today.

Stefan Prodev, a reformist and editor of the weekly publication Narodna Cultura, said communists could win public support only by shedding the "harmful ideology" many hard-liners still espouse.

Three cabinet ministers have been severely reprimanded for trying to send a dozen new Soviet T-72 tanks to the West for \$8 million profit, the government announced today.

Honecker's successors in the Communist Party kicked off their uphill election campaign yesterday

doctors who examined Honecker independently.

Peter Przybylski, a spokesman for Joseph, said the prosecutor accepted the court's decision but vowed the investigation against Honecker would not be dropped.

"We will continue the investigation against Mr Honecker," Przybylski told reporters outside Rummelsburg prison shortly after Honecker was freed.

Honecker was jailed early Monday after his release from Charite hospital where he had been recuperating from cancer surgery.

Honecker was ousted from the leadership on Oct 18, after massive pro-democracy demonstrations. He was expelled from the Communist Party in December.

Honecker's successors in the Communist Party kicked off their uphill election campaign yesterday



Emil Bobu (centre-right) talks with his lawyer during his trial at the Military Academy in Bucharest, while Manea Manescu (centre-left) and Ion Dinea look on. (Reuters wirephoto)

Romania front to run in polls

Gold stashed away

BUCHAREST, Jan 31, (Agencies): Romania's National Salvation Front (NSF) said today it would form a separate political party while continuing to rule as a provisional government.

And it said it would offer other political groupings a share of power — which it did not define — until next May's general election.

Parties revived since the overthrow and execution of communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last month are angry that the NSF, which took power from him, is planning to contest the polls. They argue this will give it an unfair advantage.

Silviu Brucan, influential chairman of the front's foreign policy commission, said a solution had to be found to its present role as both player and referee in Romanian politics.

"For the moment, we will try to divide off the state organs that have legislative power, in which the other parties can participate in one form or another, and which will function until the May 20 elections," Brucan said.

Brucan said the NSF had never regarded itself as only a provisional leadership.

"This feeling was put about by our opponents to prevent our participation in the elections," he said.

He said he had made clear in interviews with the Financial Times of London and Le Monde of Paris in late December that the NSF would fight the elections.

But Romanians said this intention had not been publicised inside the country until last week.

A front spokesman said a new round of talks with the other parties would start tomorrow.

Both the opposition parties today criticised the provisional government's offer to share power and establish a separate political organisation to compete in the elections.

The Peasants' Party warned the country could be facing another communist dictatorship.

Criticism of the front also has mounted among potential Western aid donors, increasing the pressure to find a way out of Romania's continuing power struggle.

The US government protested to the provisional government about the intimidation of political opposition parties by communists and former communists.

A former police official said he accompanied two secret flights to Switzerland carrying 40 tons of gold ingots for deposit in banks on behalf of Ceausescu, the official Romspress news agency reported yesterday.

The report, which did not identify the official, quoted him as saying that the flights took place in September and October 1980. The first charter flight carried 25 tons and the second 15 tons of gold ingots.

The gold, escorted by security officers and Finance Ministry officials, was loaded in trucks in Zurich in the presence of Romanian diplomats, the police official reportedly said.

He estimated that Ceausescu had deposited some \$400 million in gold in Swiss banks, but other sources put the figure at \$1 billion, Romspress said.

An emergency aid mission to Romania found cows starved to half their normal weight and hens that laid eggs the size of grapes, a senior European Economic Community (EEC) official said.

"Ceausescu starved the animals, not just the people," he said. The EEC would send 125,000 tonnes of maize and rye, 20,000 tonnes of beef, 5,000 tonnes of butter and 5,000 tonnes of olive oil, he added.

Czech communists lose majority

PRAGUE, Jan 31, (AP): The Communist Party yesterday lost its four-decade hold on Parliament when deputies turned over more than 100 of their seats to pro-democracy groups.

The vote completed an effort to include the emerging reform groups in the federal assembly before free elections scheduled for June 8. It was the latest abdication of communist power following a popular revolution in November.

Parliament swore in 120 new deputies, only nine of them communists, under an agreement by various parties and the opposition to replace more than one-third of the 350-member federal assembly.

The action turned the communists' majority of 242 to a minority of 139, marking the first time since the late 1940s that the communists have not dominated the legislature.

All but nine of the new seats went to the opposition and other established political parties.

communists now support "the togetherness of the German nation," and urged a thoughtful and measured approach to reunification.

In an interview with the West German newspaper Bild, party leader Gysi complained that the reunification drive is moving too quickly.

The West German newspaper Die Welt said the former government of Honecker was involved in drug trafficking for Iran in exchange for Western currency.

A Swiss firm denied today a West German newspaper report that it was involved in selling a gold hoard for East Germany's discredited Communist Party.

The Berlin Film Festival, one of the world's most prestigious, will be held in both halves of the city for the first time this year.

Bulgaria coalition plan falls through

SOFIA, Jan 31, (AP): The opposition today rejected a Communist Party offer to share power before the first free elections in more than four decades, but reportedly dropped a demand to postpone the balloting.

Petar Beron, spokesman for the Union of Democratic Forces, announced the opposition coalition's new positions on Sofia radio, according to the state news agency BTA.

Opposition leaders have rejected past communist offers to enter what Communist Party chief Petar Mladenov yesterday called a "government of national concord."

The opposition has contended that the offer is a communist strategy to get the opposition to share responsibility for four decades of mismanagement.

Mladenov reiterated the communist offer to share power in an opening speech yesterday to a party congress at which he is trying to avoid a formal split between reformers and conservatives.

But he gave no details of what share of power the communists would expect in such a cabinet.

Governments in which the non-communists play a role are ruling East Germany and Czechoslovakia before multi-party elections scheduled in March and June respectively.

Mladenov insisted that Bulgaria's first free elections be held in May, and not be postponed until November as the opposition demanded.

It was one of the few points of the party chief's speech that was roundly applauded by the communist delegates.

Jaruzelski will not join SDP

WARSAW, Jan 31, (Agencies): President Wojciech Jaruzelski and three-fourths of the communist Parliament refused to join the new Social Democracy Party, formed from the ruins of the Communist Party in a gathering that ended yesterday.

As the fledgling party ended its four-day founding congress, newly chosen chairman Aleksander Kwasniewski said it was pointless to try to hide the lack of unity.

"We have come out of this hall divided, unfortunately," Kwasniewski said, adding: "The unity laboriously pasted together for so many years ... was impossible, to maintain."

The new party enlisted only about 1,200 of the 1,600 delegates who signed up for the final congress of the Communist Party, which formally ceased activity early on Monday. The communists ruled Poland from 1948 until turning over power to Solidarity in August of last year.

Poland applied yesterday for full membership in the 23-nation Council of Europe, the oldest postwar organisation for European unity.

23 new public parks around Kuwait

State continues to back farming

KUWAIT, Jan 31 (Kuna): Chairman of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Duaij Al Sabah has emphasised that the government is keen on backing the agricultural and animal production in the country.

In a seminar last night sponsored by the Kuwait Journalists Association Sheikh Ibrahim said the state support to the animal, agriculture and fish sectors has led to an increase in production.

He added that all resolutions taken by the authority are subjected to scientific studies in co-operation with other establishments, including the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR).

Measures

He further said that the authority is going to set up 23 public gardens and parks to be added to the already opened gardens in different governorates of Kuwait.

He called on citizens to preserve these

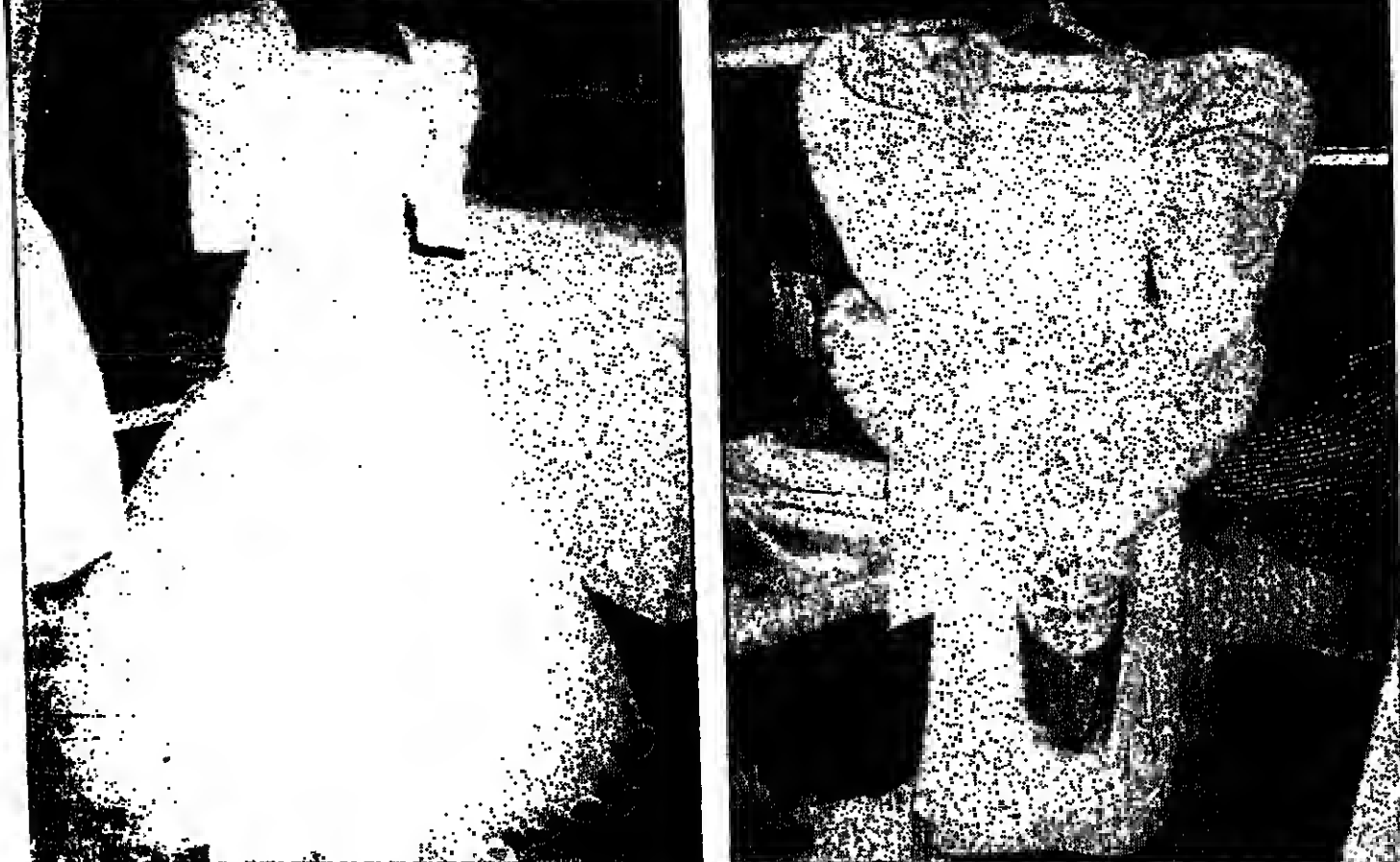
parks and gardens so as to be able to benefit from them.

He disclosed that the parks and gardens will include cultural, social and recreational centres and added that the authority intends to develop and renew several old gardens.

He denied that the recent organisational measures at the authority had been taken in preparation for changing the authority to a ministry, and explained that the changes were necessitated by the expansion of the activities of the authority.

Sheikh Ibrahim ruled out that the Turkish-Iraqi dispute over the water of Euphrates River would affect the plan to supply Kuwait with water from Iraq, saying that water to Kuwait is planned from rivers other than the Euphrates.

He hailed the ongoing co-operation between Kuwait and other member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council, particularly in the field of exchange of information and expertise.



The dress on the left is satin and tube and exquisitely embroidered scalloped with pearl outlines costs between KD500 and KD800 to make while the dress on the right is white and gold with butterfly motif sleeves costs KD800 to make. (Fabric costs excluded).

Families tighten belts on weddings

Rent-a-bridal costume catching on in Kuwait

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

RENT-A-BRIDAL costume is the latest fad in Kuwait for a majority of Kuwaiti brides as families tighten belts and become cost-conscious, market sources said.

But this trend may not last long as inexpensive gowns have flooded the market at competitive prices, equalling rental costs.

In the age of instant things, instant wedding gear had arrived, only to give way to ready-to-wear, off-the-rack clothes.

A majority of Kuwaitis, from the average-income group, who earlier spent thousands of dinars on bridal costumes, have begun renting gowns on a daily rental ranging between KD30 and KD250.

The 24-hour rental service is being run by beauty saloons, who offer clothes-plus-make-up prices ranging between KD150 to KD200.

Wedding dress specialists, who once did roaring business, have run out in the race and competition of a lack of customers.

"Business has slipped from 10 per cent turnover five years ago to a little under 25 per cent now," said one wedding specialist.

The wedding season starts in November and lasts until February, another marriage specialist said.

May, June and July, the season, not many brides have gone shopping, dressmakers complained.

Even during the war (Iran-Iraq) years, we did pretty well and had about between 20 and 25 orders per week. Now, we get between five and eight orders," he said.

They had customers not only from Kuwait but also from neighbouring states like Saudi Arabia. Now, Kuwait clients trickle into shops; a majority come for alterations or to place normal dressmaking orders.

The cost of tailoring, which shot up to as much as KD 40 and



An ancient Egyptian style dress in white satin laden with gold embroidery costs KD850 to make.

goes into it. Such dresses take between 15 and 20 days to produce, from start to fitting sessions. Most Kuwaiti girls prefer elaborate gold or silver embroidery on lace or satin. Embroidered designs also vary and are reminiscent of the type of clothes once worn by ancient Egyptian or Greek princesses.

Because of slack business, several dressmakers have cut down staff by 50 per cent. For example, one workshop which had 40 skilled workers, now has 20.

"We don't have sufficient work, or income, to sustain the workers," said one shopowner.

He said each embroiderer once earned about KD200 per month, now salaries have dropped to under KD100.

For marriages, most families ordered a wedding trousseau comprising of about eight to 10 dresses for the bride, plus clothes for the bridesmaids and other family members. Nowadays, tailors are lucky if they can get an order for a bridal dress.

A majority of families, who place bridal clothes orders, keep the costumes in the family.

"Many women come for alterations for a second or third daughter who is getting married," explained one dressmaker. He said the practice of sisters sharing clothes, which was unheard of during marriages, has also emerged.

The rent-a-dress facility, usually available at one of the beauty saloons, is being disfavoured by proprietors, simply because of the obvious hazards.

"The clothes are returned in a mess; women step on the hems and they are returned in a terrible state," explained one person.

"No matter how much we charge, it's just not worth the effort," explained another.

"It's not profitable," said another beautician, who has dropped out of the business.

"The practice is not hygienic," said another, who believes that women should not wear each other's clothes.

My shop seek rented clothes," he said.

"It's not that people are not getting married. They are just not spending as much as they would before on marriages," explained another shopkeeper.

"They (Kuwaitis) have become prudent spenders; they don't want to invest a large sum on a costume that a girl might wear only for a few hours," he said.

Made-to-order clothes are costlier because of the craftsmanship, time and effort that

Ministries to upgrade overland transport

A STUDY is currently being conducted by the Ministries of Interior, Communications, Industry and Commerce and Kuwait Municipality aimed at regulating the operation of overland passenger transport.

Representatives from these government agencies will reportedly hold a meeting within the next two weeks to discuss the establishment of 50 offices for this purpose to lay down the specifications of transport vehicles.

Discussion during the meeting will also deal with establishing new operation methods such as providing a list of personal data for passengers on each vehicle showing their total number, and means to organise the offices currently existing in Sharq and Mirghab following the increase of complaints.

The meeting will also discuss the scale of priorities for granting licences to start such offices, and that this service is expected to be suspended for the time being until the regulation process has been completed and a centre for the overland passenger transport has been designated.

Manama will host a meeting of the working team entrusted with sketching the draft projects for the unified government superannuation system in the GCC on March 4.

The team would discuss the model draft prepared by Kuwait, in the light of two projects prepared for this purpose by the state of Bahrain and the Saudi Kingdom.

Kuwait had invited a public questionnaire on this subject from all GCC states, the results whereof were used to prepare the model draft law, which was integrated in its approach to dealing with the existing situation in all member states of the GCC.

This model project will form a step towards unifying the insurance advantages for all government employees in the GCC, and it would, upon endorsement, be submitted for final approval by the GCC Secretariat General and subsequent distribution for enforcement by all GCC members.

Fana to meet in Kuwait

BAGHDAD, Jan 31 (Kuna): President of the Federation of Arab News Agencies, Barges Hmoud Al Barges has asserted that the federation's general secretariat will devote its Thursday session to preparing an agenda for Fana's general assembly, its date and venue.

Barges, in a statement to the Iraqi News Agency, said that the session in Kuwait will also discuss means of activating the federation and other relevant issues.

The session is to be attended by directors general of secretariat member agencies namely those of Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Morocco and Saudi Arabia.

Barges, who is also board chairman and director general of Kuwait News Agency, said that the general assembly will mostly be held in February or March and will focus on activating Fana's work for the upcoming stage.

Post-dated deals to be regulated

Only 43 companies active in stock market

HISHAM Al Utaihi, director of Kuwait Stock Market said that the administration of the market is currently studying the issue of post-dated dealing carefully and a draft law is in the offing to establish an investment fund guide to regulate post-dated dealings.

The official said that there are about 300 stock companies registered in Kuwait, however, not all of them are registered to the stock market. He added that he expected some of these companies to enter the market after the issue of the new law governing commercial companies. The authorities have begun writing to several good closed companies inviting them to register in the stock market, Utaihi said.

To enhance workings of the stock market, authorities will shortly introduce computer facilities to maintain secrecy of information and dealings. Prior to introducing computer facilities, it will be necessary to amend the laws and regulations at the stock market.

Amendments

He went on to explain that when the daily clearance system at the market was instituted, it was necessary to amend some laws and legislations. Thus, in all probability, there will be need to amend some regulations before using computer systems to regulate offer and bids.

The stock market operations have attained a new stage of discipline by calling for the declaration of financial details of stock

companies every six months. A committee was set up which worked for two years to issue the 1st, 2nd and 3rd accounting guide and another committee has been set up to unify all auditing measures according to the international systems.

On issuance of the unified measures, all budgets of stock companies in the market will be similar, unlike at present when every budget is different due to the nature of companies and difference of auditing measures. Some companies apply the American measures and others the British. The issuance of the guide is intended to solve 90 per cent of the problems of financial details of stock companies in the market, Utaihi said.

Positions

Commenting on dealers who focus their activities and deals on certain companies, the official said that these dealers have now attained a certain level of sophistication and have begun the process of studying the financial informations of companies. This study enables them to differentiate between the good and bad companies.

Consequently, he said that all dealers have now begun to rush to purchase shares of companies that have good financial standings and companies that are financially weak are obliged to improve their positions or leave the stock market automatically.

He added that deals are focused on the banking sector as

shares of local banks are the most profitable in the market. Investment companies are linked with foreign and internal investments. However, due to the collapse of shares in the external markets, these firms will need time to readjust their activities and improve their financial positions in Kuwait.

On the make-up of the stock market, Utaihi said that when the stock market opened there were 70 companies registered, but now there are only 43 active in the market. Commenting on dealers, he said that 70 per cent are individuals and 30 per cent are establishments. A more realistic and practical ratio should be 50 per cent establishments and the balance 50 made up of dealers.

Commenting on penalties for stock companies who give false information about their financial positions, the official said that there is an arbitration committee. If a fraud is noticed, a letter goes to the general assembly of the company through the ministry of commerce. From then on, it is the duty of the shareholders to play their role and investigate and punish the board.

Authorities are very vigilant to ensure that the market operates in a smooth and orderly manner. Last year, two stock companies were investigated due to committing some violations. Because of this early action, the harm was nipped in the bud and the confidence of the market was restored, the official said.

Child development symposium

Parents urged to stimulate thought

WITHIN the framework of the activities of the Kuwait Society for the Advancement of Childhood a symposium was held Monday under the title 'Attempts in the Gulf to reward Children with Outstanding Performance', which was held under the patronage of the Education Minister, H.E. Abdullah Al-Nouri and attended by the under-secretary of higher education, M.H. Al-Haroun.

Dr Raja Abu Allam delivered the opening speech at the symposium in which he stressed the importance of rewarding and caring for children with advanced mental faculties, through the development of special programmes based on specialists' views.

He said that the discovery of children with advanced mental powers should not be solely based on the observations of teachers, but must also take account of remarks given by the parents.

He added that special advisors should be provided to guide parents' follow-up of their children's emotional, muscular and mental growth, besides the development of their lingual faculties.

Allam said that children with advanced mental capacities out did their contemporaries with normal mental powers by 30 per cent and that if a normal infant could be able to sit by the seventh month the extraordinary infant would manage to do that at his fifth month, and the same was applicable to the motor and lingual skills. He added if parents could carefully monitor or follow up their children's developmental progress, they can discover how advanced their children's mental faculties were.

Development

He stressed the importance of helping children to develop a love for reading, upgrade their lingual skills and refine their power of expression, and to continually be there to help the child out when he runs into trouble, while helping him to develop creativity in art to make the learning job an interesting process.

Dr Fathima Nazar then reviewed the results of a survey study recently conducted to establish the best approach to discover students with excellent mental powers. This survey was carried out on students at the third elementary stage in Kuwait, which covered 300 students both boys and girls.

She said that the varying results arrived at reflected the difference in the educational background of the parents. 51 per cent of parents of the children surveyed had university education, while 6.3 per cent were illiterate. She added that educated parents helped the mental and lingual development of the children.

Nazar said the close attention and constant presence of the parents, particularly the mother around the child enables the child to identify problems and difficulties and helped facilitate the overcoming of these problems.

She strongly stressed that no one set of criteria be used for measuring the mental or lingual development levels, and that all government and private institutions must take active part in the development and constant improvement of special-purpose programmes aimed at developing excellent students' progress.

She added that teachers must be better advised on their role in discovering students with excellent mental capabilities, and the same was true of parents, stressing that IQ tests results were not to be trusted as a rule.

Gulf Airports Services Union meets today

THE Arab Gulf Airports Services Union will hold its 31st meeting in Abu Dhabi today, the director of Abu Dhabi Airport Service Saad Al Dajani was quoted as saying.

In an interview with UAE news agency, Dajani said that the meeting will be attended by delegates representing the ten international airports in the Arab Gulf countries namely: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaima, Fujairah, Doha, Muscat, Dhahran, Kuwait and Bahrain in addition to an observer from Gulf Air.

He said that the meeting will elect a new chairman for the union in addition to reviewing resolutions adopted during the union's last meeting held in Frankfurt, W. Germany on Sept 27, 1989 in addition to the latest development in the departure system.

Tunisian visit

TUNIS, Jan 31, (Kuna): A female student delegation from the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Applied Education yesterday began a week-long visit to Tunisia during which they will visit similar institutions in the country.

The 24-member delegation met with the undersecretary for higher education Sadiq Shaaban in the presence of Kuwait's Ambassador to Tunis Abdel Mohsen Al Ja'ani.

Evening schedule proposal by MOH

THE Council of Ministers reportedly considering a proposal tabled by the Minister of Planning and acting Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi providing for the operation of a outpatient clinics at the ministry hospital from 5 to 8 pm daily in return for symbolic charges.

A local daily, quoting reliable sources, said that the proposals stated that only consultant doctors would be commissioned to work during the proposed evening work hours. Only a limited number of outpatients would be examined every day for each specialised medical service.

The sources said that half of the collected fees will go to the state treasury to be spent in continuously upgrading medical services while the remaining half will be paid as fee to doctors.

The sources added that the proposed evening work schedule would entail the operation of other medical services such as radiology, analysis and others in order to provide patients with integrated medical attention.

Cultivation 1 pc of UAE GNP

THE cultivated area in the United Arab Emirates at 40,000 hectares, according to a study issued recently by UAE's Industrial Bank.

The cultivated area contributes to about one per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP) and is concentrated at Al Ain, Al Fujairah and Ras Al Khaima and produces fruit, vegetables and cereals in addition to livestock and poultry. Produce during the winter season exceeds demand and the surplus is exported to the European countries.

Meanwhile the study disclosed that the daily output of the canning plant situated at Al Ain area which was established in 1982 is estimated at 120 tons daily. About 60 per cent of the capacity is exported to the GCC countries. The country also produces about 65,000 tons of dates per annum, the study said.

Ministry of Education praises British Schools Conference

THE second day of the 1990 British Schools' Conference, being held in Kuwait, was given an official seal of approval in an opening speech delivered in Kuwait English School by Abdullah Al Muhanna, head of private schools section at the Ministry of Education.

"It gives me great honour and pleasure," said Muhanna, "to address leaders of thought, science and learning, especially since we are assembling today on the premises of this leading academic institution which we consider, among others, an outstanding educational achievement, worthy of every respect and admiration."

I am particularly pleased to bless and participate in enhancing these good efforts which aim at keeping abreast of various developments.

Directed by His Highness the Amir and the Crown Prince, Kuwait has always welcomed and valued cultural meetings and conferences for the great role they play in enriching culture, thought and learning.

We hope that your conference will realise all the goals set before it and the results in which ambitious souls aspire.

Your schools have firmly believed in progress. You have, therefore, made every possible effort to hold such meetings to

strengthen ties, exchange ideas, deepen educational concepts and seek to attain the best. Your conference has become a platform, enabling many of those working in the field to trade experience for better results.

We cannot but tender our thanks to all members of your conference and to all schools participating in the various activities. Special thanks are due to the Institute of Private Education for sponsoring this year's conference, wishing it continual progress.

Responding on behalf of the guests, Professor John Welton, head of the School of Education, Oxford Polytechnic, thanked Muhanna for the graciousness and warmth of his welcome and hoped that the conference would provoke lively debate for it was in disagreement that fresh ideas surfaced.

In her remarks from the chair, Kuwait English School Principal, Rhoda E. Muhmood, spoke of the need for wisdom in decision-taking and for flexibility in meeting change. She trusted that participants would be better, wiser people after the conference.

Proceedings had commenced with recitations from the Holy Koran, given by Senior 2 student, Ibrahim Abu El Fadil, and former student, Hanan Al Mutawa.

WANTED
A mechanical engineer
having 10 years' experience in A/C&R.
Please contact Mr. M.S. Akhtar, Al-Magwa
Trd. & Cont. Co. W.L.L. East Ahmed, Kuwait.
Tel 3985381/2
Time: From 8 am to 11.30 am and
From 2 pm to 4 pm.

Handwritten signature or text in Arabic script.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

BEFORE buying anything, it is well to ask whether one could not do without it — John Lubbock, English astronomer-mathematician.

Influx of Soviet Jews Middle East moods affected

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): A mass influx of Soviet Jews to Israel has abruptly changed the mood of the Middle East, giving Israelis a new self-confidence and spreading alarm verging on panic among Palestinians and Arab States.

The prospect of 50,000 to 100,000 Soviet Jews moving to Israel this year and between 250,000 and 750,000 over the next five years is forcing fundamental rethinking about the demographic and political balance in the region.

The reversal is stark after two years in which Israel was on the defensive, beset by a Palestinian uprising its military power could not crush and losing political support in the West.

"The impact of Soviet immigration cannot be overestimated in terms of Arab perceptions of Israel," said Asher Susser, head of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Centre for Middle East Studies.

Arab commentators and newspapers are suddenly full of gloomy prognosis about the impact of Soviet Jewish immigration. There is talk of an Arab summit on the issue.

Celebrating

"The world is celebrating the new freedoms in Eastern Europe and paying little attention to what is happening in the Middle East," a Nicosia-based PLO official said.

"They are celebrating at our expense," he added. For years, many Arabs had perceived Israel to be in slow decline, its pioneering spirit almost gone and Jewish emigration outpacing immigration.

They saw the PLO's decision in November 1989 to recognise Israel as acknowledgement that Palestinians could live in peace with an Israel no longer bent on expansion.

Soviet immigration has changed everything. "Israel has scored several rounds recently," said the Saudi newspaper Al Riyadh on Tuesday. "Arab weakness is responsible."

Susser said Arabs who regarded the Israelis as latter-day Crusaders, an alien people destined to disappear from the Middle East, were realising the tide of history was not on their side. This might in time foster a new realism, he said.

Future

"If the future is not on their side, they may have more of an interest in accommodation with Israel," Susser said.

Few in the Arab world would agree that the changes are bringing peace nearer. Instead there are fears that Israel's new ebullience will aggravate age-old enmities.

"It shows that we may have been wrong in thinking that an Arab-Israeli peace was possible," the PLO official said.

Arab governments and the PLO have protested to the Kremlin, seizing on a statement by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that a "big Israel," including the occupied territories, was needed to settle Soviet Jews.

In a memorandum to Western governments, Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories said the influx of immigrants would reverse the demographic status quo and be "an additional step in the process of the dispossession of the Palestinians."

Many Palestinians say they feel dejected as their uprising is elbowed out of the headlines by the influx of Soviet Jews.

At present there are 3.7 million Jews and 650,000 Arabs inside Israel's pre-1967 borders and 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Forecast

Given the higher Arab birth-rate, demographers had forecast that the number of Arabs under Israeli rule would outstrip the number of Jews early in the next century.

The Soviet Union warned Israel on Monday against settling Soviet Jews in the occupied territories.

It has also tried to assuage Arab anger by holding up implementation of an agreement for direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv, which would speed emigration.

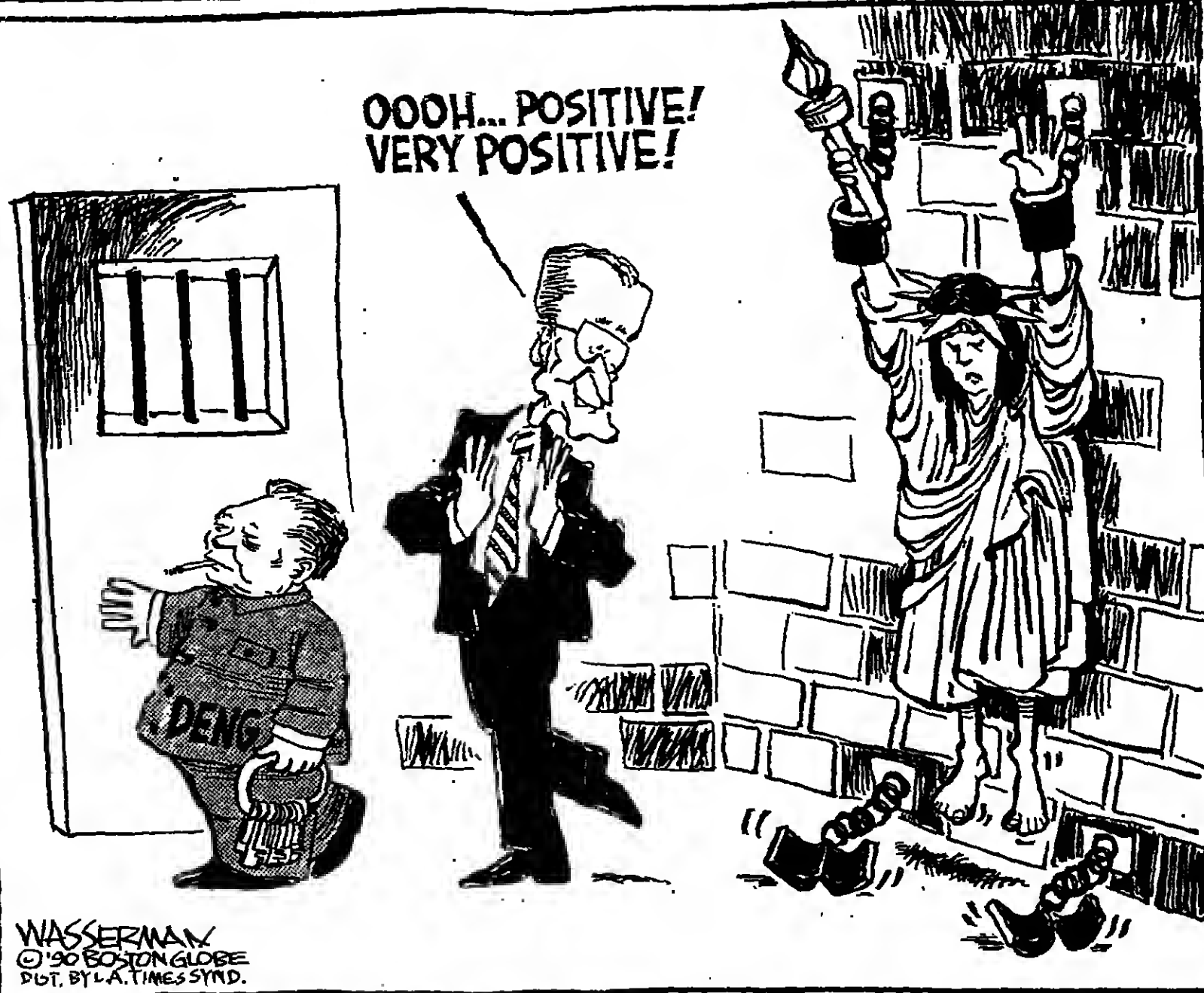
But the Kremlin has signalled to Arab states there will be no fundamental change in its emigration policy.

Soviet Ambassador to Amman Alexander Zinchuk told the Jordan Times newspaper that Moscow could do little to stop Soviet Jews coming to Israel.

"The Soviets are trying to find symbolic and unimportant ways to compensate the Arabs," said Professor Galia Golan of Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1587 — England's Queen Elizabeth I signs warrant for execution of Mary Queen of Scots.
- 1702 — Prince Eugene of Savoy raids Cremona, Italy.
- 1775 — Peasants in Bohemia revolt against servitude.
- 1881 — First signs of nationalist movement appear in Egypt as military officers stage uprising.
- 1896 — Crete, inspired by Greece, begins revolution against Turkey.
- 1899 — US flag is raised over Pacific island of Guam, formerly under Spanish control.
- 1908 — Portugal's King Carlos I and crown prince are murdered in Lisbon, and Manuel II becomes king.
- 1924 — Britain recognises communist government of Soviet Union.
- 1935 — Anglo-German conference is held in London to discuss Germany's rearmament; Italy sends troops to East Africa.
- 1946 — Trygve Lie, Norwegian socialist, is elected United Nations secretary-general; Hungarian republic is proclaimed.
- 1956 — South Africa requests Soviet Union to withdraw all consultants.
- 1959 — Swiss referendum rejects female suffrage in federal elections.
- 1972 — British embassy in Dublin is bombed as anti-British demonstrations sweep Ireland.
- 1986 — Philippines president Ferdinand Marcos says his military uncovered plot to assassinate him.
- 1988 — Mortar bomb rigged with timing device explodes in crowded produce market in Peshawar, Pakistan, killing 5 people and wounding 23.
- 1989 — Armenian authorities ease curfew imposed in previous November to stem ethnic unrest.



Headscarf row

SIR: The whole of contemporary social sciences literature in the West, including the US, be it in psychology, politics, education, sociology or any other field of human behaviour, is laden with the notion of the applicability of rationality and logic. It has been said in recent years that all human conduct, individual as well as collective, must be judged in rational and logical terms. Hence, when the row over Rushdie's Satanic Verses erupted, the West argued that it was illogical and outside rational parameters to question the author's freedom of expression, actions or speech. They said that these were the cherished prerogatives of the contemporary high civilisation that could not be compromised at any cost. Good enough.

However, there could be more than one perspective on the issue. For me, the appropriate application of rationality would absolutely imply that if a great majority of Muslims have erupted like a volcano on the publication of the Satanic Verses, then the absolute logical response ought to be to determine what has caused such a severe reaction and if possible, try to understand the undercurrents of this reaction. It would be completely illogical to conclude that the majority of Muslims the world over have gone mad. Unfortunately, this is how the Western establishments have reacted. The illogical has become illogical; however, the West has chosen to act within the well-known parameters of its ethnocentricity.

Now rows over Muslim women's culturally-bound practices are brewing. Last week two teen age Muslim girls in Britain were sent home from school because they were wearing scarves. The school authorities said that headscarves posed dangers to health standards. Frankly, there is no logic or even a shred of rationale in this act of outrageous cultural ethnocentrism.

Would it make any sense (logical or rational) if European women living in the Gulf, or for that matter in Pakistan, Malaysia, or any other Muslim country, were told that the skirts they wear, the blouses in which they dress, or the headscarves they do not cover are in fact health hazards? I am sure that Westerners would consider such a thing outrageous and illogical. So do I.

One wonders if the West's notion of rationality or logic has suddenly changed its meaning in absolute sense, or perhaps they apply these concepts in whatever ways these notions suit them. Now headscarves are health hazards. Absolutely absurd logically!

The fact of the matter is how one chooses to dress is a matter of one's choice of freedom. We are all cognitively bound; if some European women wish to dress in short skirts in the Muslim world, then let it be so. By the same token, some of the Muslim women who have chosen to cover their heads should have the complete and absolute freedom to do so, wherever and whenever they wish to exercise this right of freedom.

It is gratifying that the school authorities in Altrincham, England, have acted with appreciable understanding and have allowed the two sisters to wear headscarves. Indeed, in a multicultural society, the accommodation of cultural diversity becomes not only imperative, it is also a part of a new human consciousness to admit a vitality of broader cultural perspectives and shun the rigidity of ethnocentric dilemmas.

Blatant use of cultural ethnocentricity indicates a nation's or a people's inclination towards oppression of others. There is no place for such an oppression in the contemporary human civilisation. Europe and the US, like the rest of humanity, have to learn this now.

Dr Haider Mehdi,
Kuwait University,
Shuwaikh Campus.

Rajneesh death

SIR: Osho Rajneesh, the Indian guru, is dead at the age of 58. It seems that Rajneesh anticipated his death well in advance. Though the cause of the guru's sudden death is described as massive coronary arrest, the followers of the deceased have claimed that his death occurred due to gradual poisoning administered to him during his detention in a prison cell in Oklahoma. A report issued at the commune headquarters in Pune

claimed that Rajneesh was exposed to radiation and poisoned with heavy metal thallium in such a way as to leave no traces of the poisoning.

Is it true? Is there any possibility that the accusation may have some justifiable grounds or partial truth? Whatever the case may be, since the accusations have been made public, it is the moral, ethical and legal responsibility of the authorities in Charlotte, North Carolina, to conduct an unbiased inquiry into this case.

Rajneesh himself described his approaching death in a most painful way: a statement released said: "...since the days in jail in Charlotte...his body has been deteriorating...he kept the pain to himself but living in the body had become a hell."

No human being should be subjected to cruelty and a tortuous death no matter how non-conformist that person is to prevailing values. Conspiracy to kill to silence, disfigure and an inexcusable act of an outrageous nature: the ideals of democracy and the contemporary civilisation cannot be compromised with these kinds of acts. The least that needs to be done now is to make sure that it is established that the accusations are baseless, if that seems to be the perspective of the prison authorities in North Carolina. On the other hand, the conspiracy of silence will only add to suspicion.

I am sure that most of us find Rajneesh's ideals unacceptable, if not a completely repugnant. Be it as it may, the other side of the coin is that Rajneesh did not preach anything outrageous either, particularly with reference to contemporary Western civilisation. Capitalism, which he advocated, is already a cherished economic ideal of the West. The free-love and living pleasures that Rajneesh argued for and practised are only an extended version of the already prevailing views of disappearing taboos on sexual attitudes and pleasure-seeking in increasingly affluent societies. On top of this, Rajneesh did not preach any kind of violence at all.

I feel that the worth of people like Rajneesh is to give us a different value system paradigm for analogous comparisons. The analogy here is one of stark differences: we all know that the majority of political institutions the world over are actively promoting violence. Consider the extent of violence by Israel against the Arabs...and yet, the majority of Westerners support Israel. President Reagan enacted institutional violence when he said that the massive armament of the US and its allies (friends) was an integral part of American foreign policy. President Bush has legitimated violence by the enactment of the new US foreign policy initiative of "low-intensity conflicts." In most simplistic terms, this notion means that American troops will go into any sovereign country, small and not-powerful, at the time of their choosing. 1000 civilians are reported to have been killed in Panama at the time of the US invasion, which has been considered unnecessary by many observers. Air shows and defense shows are held every year to sell killing machines and sophisticated weaponry.

The common people in the present-day world face unprecedented paradoxes. We all want peace and cherish prosperity. Who shall we seek? The established institutions which have served us with less than appropriate reason and exceeding coercion, or the "low-intensity conflicts." In most simplistic terms, this notion means that American troops will go into any sovereign country, small and not-powerful, at the time of their choosing. 1000 civilians are reported to have been killed in Panama at the time of the US invasion, which has been considered unnecessary by many observers. Air shows and defense shows are held every year to sell killing machines and sophisticated weaponry.

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Salary scale

SIR: I thank the Arab Times very much for publishing the problems of third country labour (Labourers' Decade abuse of human rights, Arab Times, January 18-19, 1990).

Kuwait is not only one of the richest countries of the world but also a welfare state. The government of Kuwait is well-known to the world for their kindness and sincerity towards its people. And in such a position it is very much difficult for someone to believe that thousands of workers are paid a monthly salary of only KD25 to KD35.

To the best of my knowledge, Private Sector Labour Law does not limit any company or any individual to pay any amount of wages or salaries, it could be one million or problem with its higher side but what about the minimum — how low should it be?

Since there exists no minimum pay scale, many workers are exploited as much as possible by some employers.

The more the competition to get the jobs, the lesser wages offered and as long as poverty exists in the Third World countries people are hooked to accept lowest possible wages. The question is — can anyone survive with KD25 or KD35 earnings a month? It is not a sin to offer the workers as low as KD20, 25 or 35 per 30 days? For the sake of getting business no one should have the right to treat human beings in such a manner. I do not know whether this letter will be published or not and if published will be noticed by the aforesaid employers or not and if noticed their attitude will be changed or not, but I wish it happens.

Through this column of Arab Times, I fervently appeal to the government to fix a reasonable minimum pay scale to save the expat labourers who are working very hard to keep Kuwait clean providing the best possible services to the citizens of Kuwait in various fields.

M. Ashraf Rahim
Almudai

Introduction dinner

SIR: I would like to refer to your news item published in AT 30-1-90, in connection with the PFF's president (disputed) proposal for funds from Pakistani community in Kuwait. I would like to state as hereunder:

The news item is vague, baseless and misleading. The dinner at the residence of Mr. M.A. Khan was merely to introduce him to Pakistani associations. A few people, who wanted to come in picture and have used this platform as a cheap publicity media, did speak on the occasion. Their speeches proved to be ignorant of the facts and knowledge. I will not go into details but merely will refer one person who has an association of two people only said that the main purpose of the creation of this world was that a person to live with peace and so far as the prayer (Ruhani) for God is concerned, there were the angels created for this purpose. In the holy book, Allah Almighty clearly emphasised that both angels and human beings were created only to worship Allah and to pray (spend the life in offering ibadat - prayers) and to follow the ways as guided by the Prophet (PBUH).

If your reporter had to cover the PFF's president, he should have reported for the other persons who gave their views in a splendid manner although the occasion was not meant to have a debate and was merely to have an introduction with Mr. M.A. Khan (who is new in Kuwait and generously arranged a wonderful dinner) as I have said above.

I may add that the representative and the president of Bazaar-e-Haq had also supported my views adding that the dinner was not meant for speeches and if one had to speak he should have taken permission from the host. He challenged to have open dialogues and his door was opened for such a fruitful and critical discussion.

I hope you will kindly publish these few lines which will clarify the misunderstanding, created with the published news item.

Name and address supplied

Well done, Goa

SIR: Kudos to the Goa team for their spectacular victory over the Kerala team. Hail Goa, for making headlines by triumphing Kerala by a margin of 3 goals in the friendly football match played at the Faleel stadium on January 26, 1990, to commemorate the Republic Day of India.

A. Veronica Fernandes, in his letter to the other English daily, dated 29.1.90, has aptly highlighted the finer aspects of the game and tried to give a filip to the cohesive coexistence of the two communities, which is sadly lacking.

Being a professional footballer himself, having donned the colours of Sesa Goa, a leading soccer team in Goa, he has displayed a unique sense of sportsmanship in bolstering the morale of the talented Goan and non-Goan youth by actively involving himself and rendering selfless whatever service he can, within his capabilities, to keep aloft the banner of Goa and the Goans in varied fields of sports, cultural and social activities. His yeoman services are commendable.

It is felt that if the 'Arab Times', the only other English daily, too, gives wider coverage to the local and Indian sports and sponsors similar events in Kuwait, it will go a long way in increasing its circulation. Viva Goa!

Rabindra Pheneas, Kuwait.

World records

SIR: The Indian football tournament conducted on Jan 26 at Faleel was not an 'Olympic' event, but in my opinion it holds the following 'world records':

1. Having the maximum number of committees and members for such an exhibition match (the most ever in the world).
2. Having a 'general convenor' for a soccer event, who has never entered into a football field in his whole life.
3. Having a record number of goals scored against a "Kerala team" outside India.

George Manjivora.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Azeris, Kurds eke out living

KADIKISLAK, Turkey, (Reuters): On a remote eastern Turkish plateau in the shadow of Mount Ararat, hardy Azeris and Kurds in mudbrick villages scratch out a living near the Soviet frontier and talk about the ethnic violence on their doorstep.

Men huddle around log stoves during the bleak mid-winter when snow blankets the fields, sipping tea and coffee while their women go about daily chores in bone-grawing temperatures.

"In our society and according to our customs, a woman has a different place. Men are dominant," said Nur Ali Gunay, headman of Kadikislak, 15 minutes walk from Soviet Armenia.

The harshness of life in the region is reflected in the wrinkled, prematurely aged faces of many inhabitants.

"During the summer there is farming. But in winter we sit in this smoke-filled coffee house spending money," said Kadikislak village headman Akyildirim.

Founder
Talk in the village coffee house, with wall pictures of modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Ataturk alongside calendars and photographs of semi-clad Western women, has been given fresh impetus by the fighting between Azeris and Armenians across the frontier and the Soviet military intervention in Azerbaijan.

"While the world heads for peace our brothers in Azerbaijan only want their independence. Armenians are very bad," said Isat Yisel, who has spent all of his 65 years in Kadikislak.

Most homes in Kadikislak, where 500 Azeri Turks and 115 Kurds live, have television and five have video recorders to keep abreast of political and cultural developments in Ankara, 1,300 km (800 miles) to the east, and the rest of the world.

They are among 400,000 mainly Shiite Muslim Azeri Turks and a similar number of Kurds — from ethnic groups separated by wars and other upheavals during the past century — living in or near a narrow thumb of land between Soviet Armenia and Iran.

Kadikislak is one of the more prosperous villages among 54 in the Igdir district.

Contrast
There is a stark contrast between Azeri villages and the poorer Kurdish ones.

"There is generally good feeling between Azeris and Kurds (in Turkey) but the Azeris are richer and have better opportunities," said a Kurdish elder in nearby Huseynkent, home for 500 Kurds.

"This is a poor village. We have no telephone and no school. We sometimes get trouble from the security forces because some people do not want us here," said another villager.

Local sources said there had been some separatist Kurdish violence in the past year, perpetrated by guerrillas who have been active in southeastern Turkey for nearly six years.

Kurds say their land on which they grow cotton, sugar beet and wheat is inferior to much of that titled by Azeris, who also comprise most of the population of the market city of Igdir.

Gunay said the average Kadikislak family of seven people had an annual income equivalent to \$2,130 in a country where the average per capita annual income was \$1,300.

Villagers in Huseynkent said their average annual income per family, frequently with eight or more children, was less than three million Turkish liras (\$1,270).

"About 40 or 50 people leave every year looking for jobs in Istanbul or Ankara," said one Huseynkent villager.

"I left last year but returned when I could not find a job," he said, speaking in a grocery store with no apparent electricity supply.

Returned
Gunay said some people from Kadikislak left each year but nearly always returned with additional cash and sometimes cars.

"In summer, every family works in the fields and people help each other," he said.

There is a primary school for 100 children in Kadikislak, while nearby Igdir has a high school and a health centre.

Villagers in Kadikislak were staunch supporters of former prime minister, and now President, Turgut Ozal, and his Motherland Party during the last general election in 1987.

"We are losing our sympathy for Motherland, mainly because of (70 per cent annual) inflation and his remarks on Azerbaijanis," Gunay said.

Ozal hinted that Shiite Muslim Soviet Azerbaijanis were closer to Iran than to Turkey, while Sunni Muslims are dominant.

"We like Ataturk and in most homes his picture hangs on walls. He was a great leader because he founded the secular republic and provided freedom," said Gunay, who was mistified to allow a glimpse of rugged Mount Ararat — Agri in Turkey — the 5,135-metre (17,111-feet) high legendary resting place of Noah's Ark.

Quote me

"We have seen reports that some emigrants have chosen to settle in the occupied territories. We have made our position clear on the issue. Building more settlements or putting more settlers into the territories is an obstacle to the cause of peace. We do not and will not provide UN government resources or funds for settlement of immigrants in the occupied territories." — State Department spokesman Richard Boucher.

"I bear him — I hope he remember that. Every time I play Lendl it's a special match." — Noah on the possibility of playing the final against Lendl.

"If Syria succeeds in persuading the Muslim militias to disarm voluntarily for a start then such steps would certainly mark a major turning point in Lebanon. It is clear that Hrawi has secured Assad's support for proceeding along the lines set by the Arab League peace plan." — UAE newspaper.

"We have always been at one with the government in wanting to rid football of the hooliganism problem, but we have always been opposed in principle to the ID scheme." — Glenn Kirtson of the Football Association on use of ID cards for soccer matches.

"We conclude, based on the available evidence, that the Contras engaged in this indiscriminate attack on a civilian vehicle that resulted in the death of two nuns and the serious wounding of a nun and a bishop. We consider it an indiscriminate attack because the evidence indicates that they made no effort to determine whether the occupants of the vehicle were civilian or military." — the American Watch Human Rights group on the killing of two nuns on the New Year's Day.

Journalists



Demonstrators dispersed

Turkish riot policemen disperse a group of demonstrators protesting the legal curbs on leftist activities in front of the Istanbul governor's office. Nearly 50 protesters were detained refusing to disperse after they submitted petition to the Istanbul governorate authorities. (Reuters wirephoto)

Juba a death trap

City of panic, terror and fear

KHARTOUM, Jan 31, (AP): Relief workers evacuated from Juba, Sudan's beleaguered southern capital, described yesterday a city of panic, terror and fear.

Prevented from fleeing by well-armed soldiers, scores of thousands of people weak with hunger desperately dig foxholes and trenches to escape shrapnel from rebel rockets.

"Juba has become a death trap," said Irishman Daniel Eiffe, who works for Accord, a London-based development and relief organisation, flew to Khartoum on Monday with three

other Westerners in an evacuation project using aircraft of the United Nations. Fourteen other Westerners expected to join the airlift flew instead on a private agency's plane to Nairobi, Kenya.

There, an Italian physician said the 250,000 inhabitants live in fear of food riots if minute quantities of sustenance reaching the city are cut off and the meagre stocks run out.

Also, he spoke of widespread dread of urban warfare in Juba's streets if the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army ends its long siege of the city with a military advance. Fear is exacerbated by the sign-off of broadcasts from the clandestine rebel radio station. "Black people be ready."

John Garang, a renegade army colonel, sent his Sudan People's

Liberation Army into the southern hush in early 1983. He accused the Arab Muslim-dominated central government of discriminating against the ethnically African non-Muslim southerners and demanded economic, political and administrative changes favouring the south.

Sudan is Africa's largest country, as big as the United States east of the Mississippi river and wretchedly poor.

Hundreds of thousands have died in the rebellion, mainly civilian victims of famine caused by farmers' being driven from their fields to seek sanctuary in government-controlled places like Juba, 750 miles (1200 km) south of the capital Khartoum.

A small city, Juba is egregiously overcrowded.

30 dead and 15 missing in Tunisia floods

TUNIS, Jan 31, (AP): The casualty toll from the torrential rains and floods that swept across central and southern Tunisia is 30 dead, 15 missing and 9,650 homeless, officials said.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, in a Monday night television address, announced that \$100 million had been earmarked for the first phase of an emergency programme to help those hardest hit.

The initial phase of the programme will involve getting farmers back into production and helping Tunisians who lost their homes or whose houses suffered the most serious damage, and a start at repairing roads, bridges, and schools.

According to Mohamed Saafi, co-ordinator here for the UN Disaster Relief Organisation, material damage includes 38,000 homes destroyed or seriously damaged, 7,500 bridges damaged, 22,000 head of cattle or sheep lost, 307 schools destroyed or damaged, 11,000 greenhouses and hundreds of wells destroyed or damaged.

He said Undro still needed 4,000 to 4,500 tents, 60,000 blankets, 20,000 mattresses, 1,000 tons of semolina as well as clothing and pumps.

Iranians mark return of Khomeini without him

NICOSIA, Jan 31, (Reuters): Iranians celebrate the 11th anniversary of their February revolution as their Islamic leaders proclaim economic development the nation's overriding goal in a decade of reconstruction.

The "10-day dawn" celebrations begin on Thursday with a mass gathering at the shrine of Ayatollah Khomeini, who flew back to Iran on Feb. 1, 1979 after 15 years in exile to lead the final assault on the late Shah's pro-Western monarchy.

Khomeini's successor, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on Monday described the Islamic revolution as a "divine miracle" and urged people to take part in the celebrations.

The government was declared Thursday a holiday to ensure a large crowd at the anniversary gathering, the first to be held since Khomeini's death on June 3 following cancer surgery.

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani will be the main speaker at the shrine near the Behesht-e Zahra cemetery in the southern outskirts of Tehran.

The celebrations continue with sporting events, film and theatre festivals, book exhibits and other activities to culminate

in a military parade on Feb. 11, the day in 1979 when the Shah's regime fell after three days of street battles.

As in the run-up to past anniversaries, the Iranian media are filled with tributes to Khomeini as the man who set up the only true Islamic state in modern times and remained defiant of the superpowers and steadfast in an unwanted war with Iraq.

But the leaders who inherited Khomeini's power have made clear that the survival of the Islamic republic and its ability to attract overseas Muslims depend on economic prosperity.

"The most important revolutionary action today is the rebuilding of the country and the severing of bonds of economic dependence," Rafsanjani said in a Friday prayer sermon in December.

Khamenei urged senior officials on Monday to implement Iran's new five-year economic development plan "as the opening of the road to be followed in the decade of reconstruction."

He said the fight against poverty, insecurity and illiteracy formed the basis of Iran's internal policy.

Savage fighting between Christians engulfs East Beirut

(Continued from Page 1)

By all accounts, Aoun's 20,000 troops, led by the crack US-trained 8th brigade, held the upper hand, isolating Lebanese Forces strongpoints and cutting their supply lines after both sides ignored a ceasefire call.

It was the worst fighting in the Christian zone north of Beirut since last February, when Aoun moved against the Lebanese Forces to assert his control of the enclave. More than 80 people were killed and 200 wounded in four days of fighting.

In South Lebanon, the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, clashed with its Shiite Muslim rival, the Syrian-backed Amal group, in a

separate mini-war for supremacy of Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, the country's largest sect.

Police said four people were wounded in the southern fighting, raising the toll since Dec 23 to 98 killed and 290 wounded.

Police said there was no immediate report on casualties in the Christian sector because of the intensity of the fighting, the worst in the Christian zone for a year.

But radio stations appealed for blood donations so hospitals could cope with the casualties.

Fires burned out of control and palls of black smoke shrouded the Christian enclave north of Beirut as hundreds of thousands of civilians huddled in

basements and bomb shelters.

A police spokesman reported house-to-house combat in some residential districts of East Beirut and Lebanese Forces commander Samir Geagea said his 6,000-strong militia was fighting "for our survival."

"We shall respond to each shell with 10 shells. We will not allow those blinded by the lust for power to slaughter the Lebanese Forces," Geagea said in a statement broadcast by Christian radio stations.

The militia claimed it captured 103 of Aoun's soldiers in a series of lightning attacks in the northern provinces of Byblos and Batroun.

Police said the militia's overland supply

lines were cut. But the Lebanese Forces has severed links between its headquarters in East Beirut and the ports of Byblos and Jounieh north of the capital.

The outcome of the confrontation could break the stalemate in an Arab League peace plan aimed at ending Lebanon 14-year-old civil war.

Aoun opposes the accord worked out in the Saudi Arabian city of Taif last October because it fails to guarantee the withdrawal of all Syrian forces from Lebanon.

He refuses to recognise President Elias Hrawi, elected in November to form a national reconciliation government and oversee implementation of the peace accord.

Gorby asked to halt flow of Jews

(Continued from Page 1)

He promised to pass the letter to the Soviet leadership, noting that he so far sent two memoranda to the Soviet government including his proposals on the question, but he did not elaborate.

The Soviet Union is a traditional supporter of the Arabs against Israel in the Middle East conflict.

Zverev insisted the problem "actually began" when Washington started putting restrictions on immigrant visas for Soviet Jews.

"We are trying to find a solution to this question," the Soviet ambassador said. "We also told Israel of our clear objection to setting up (Jewish) settlements in the occupied Arab territories and that we will reconsider our immigration policy when we discover that Israel exploited the situation."

Another Kuwaiti daily quoted Yuri Vorontsov, Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister, as telling Arab diplomats in Moscow that the Kremlin suspended implementation of an agreement for direct flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv to "protest against the Israeli measures and statements by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir."

Vorontsov said the decision along with a memorandum of protest were passed to the Israeli mission in Moscow.

In a dispatch from Moscow, the paper quoted Abdo Othman as saying the Arab diplomatic corps in the Soviet capital, as saying that the Arab diplomats who met Vorontsov on Monday requested that the Soviet Union "take effective measures in this respect."

On the Arab side, the co-ordination with Soviet Union and other countries to bring the question to the UN Security Council because of its seriousness.

However, Vorontsov told the Arab ambassadors that his country "will adhere to the agreements and conventions to which it is signatory concerning the free immigration of all citizens including Jews, Germans and Armenians."

■ Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had talks with Soviet envoy Gennady Tarasov in Tunis today and the PLO said it wanted Moscow to reinforce transit camps in Europe for Jewish emigrants.

■ PLO executive committee member Sulaiman Nabah told a news conference the PLO wanted the Soviets to limit the numbers going to Israel by sending them first to Europe and by withholding agreement on direct flights from Moscow to Israel.

■ Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran said in remarks published today he feared the mass migration of Soviet Jews to Israel could lead to an exodus of Palestinians into Jordan.

■ Immigration has largely occupied our thoughts because we see that it could be at Jordan's expense," Badran told the Egyptian weekly magazine Al-Mussawwar.

■ The Arab League's representative yesterday urged the United States to toughen its policy against settlement of Soviet Jews in Israeli-occupied territories.

(See Page 9)

Israeli-Czech ties to be restored soon

PRAGUE, Jan 31, (Reuters): Czechoslovakia expects to resume diplomatic relations with Israel, after a 23-year break, during a visit by Foreign Minister Karel Svoboda to Prague next week, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Spokesman Jan Martinek told a news conference Arafat would arrive on Feb 8 to put the final seal on ties cut by Czechoslovakia's now disgraced communist government in a Soviet-led move over the 1967 Middle East war.

"Czechoslovakia wants with this step, which confirms the new orientation of its foreign policy, to contribute to peace in the Middle East," he said.

Czechoslovakia will be the second reorienting East European state to resume ties with Israel, after Hungary did so in September.

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He did not elaborate but said the council's five permanent members are meeting again with the secretary-general. (Kuna)

■ Washington protest rejected: The Cyprus government rejected a US protest over the presence on the island of representatives of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party of Turkey, an informed source said Tuesday.

The authoritative source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that an official complaint by the US embassy describing two visiting representatives of the party, known as the PKK, as "terrorists," was not accepted. (AP)

■ Egypt's discreet mediation, diplomats said.

■ And civil war still rages in Egypt's giant southern neighbour, Sudan, where rebels in the Christian and animist south are fighting Sudanese government troops from the Muslim Arabised north.

■ Egypt has been asked by Sudan's new military government to mediate between it and rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army.

■ Ethiopia has asked its Arab neighbours to help stop the shipping attacks by the EPLF, fighting for independence for the province of Eritrea.

PLO willing to negotiate team

Insists on right to name delegation for talks

AMMAN, Jan 31, (AP): A PLO official said today the organisation is willing to negotiate on the membership of a Palestine delegation for talks with Israel — the current roadblock to peace efforts.

The well-placed official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the PLO still "insists on our right to name the Palestinian delegation" to the meeting with Israel proposed by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and US Secretary of State James Baker III.

But he added: "The PLO leadership is willing to negotiate the form of the Palestinian delegation to the proposed meeting."

The official said the organisation was considering a formula which would exclude members of its cabinet-like executive committee and those involved in anti-Israeli military operations, while including PLO members deported from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said that the PLO had co-consulted the United States and Egypt "on these new criteria and they have approved them."

He said a decision on the proposals would be reached during an executive committee meeting due to start tomorrow in Tunisia.

"It does not mean any further concessions on behalf of the PLO, but it shows our flexibility towards peace in this region," the official said.

The proposed Palestinian-Israeli meeting is intended to discuss elections to the Israeli-occupied territories to choose negotiators for further peace talks.

PLO officials also want to raise other issues, while Israel insists the agenda be strictly limited.

Israeli officials have insisted on US promises that the PLO be barred from even an indirect role and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says no deportees can take part.

Police yesterday arrested a Palestinian teenage girl who had a fire bomb and was heading towards the Western Wall, Judaism's most holy site.

"She was caught during a routine security check," Jerusalem police spokesman Uzi Sandori said.

He said the 18-year-old girl lived in Silwan, an Arab village inside Jerusalem, and that the fire bomb was ready for use. She was apprehended at a check point in the old, walled city leading to the Western Wall, Sandori said.

Israeli Radio said that the

US rebukes deportation plan

WASHINGTON, Jan 31, (Kuna): The State Department has rebuked Israel for reportedly planning to deport some 120,000 Palestinians in the occupied territories on the grounds they were "non-residents" or illegal residents.

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler, speaking during the daily press briefing, said, "as we currently understand their policies, the Israelis impose a difficult test of residence. We hope that the government of Israel would apply residence requirements with sensitivity and flexibility."

"We continue to discuss these requirements with the Israeli government. They are well aware of our concern, particularly with regard to divided families."

The spokeswoman was unwilling to say whether, as Arabs charge, the "non-resident" rubric was merely a pretext for the ultimate expulsion from their land of 120,000 Palestinians in the occupied lands.

These remarks come in the immediate wake of harsh criticisms by the Bush administration in recent days over the Jewish state's plans to build new settlements for the waves of Soviet Jews arriving in Israel.

About 850 Soviet Jewish immigrants settle in Israel monthly, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir indicates they will be placed in settlements of the sort the US formally protests as "obstacles to peace."

Arabs oo suspicious they collaborated with Israel, the army reported.

Speaking in Hebrew, pro-PLO activist Faisal Husseini told the audience that it was better Israelis and Palestinians had "a dialogue rather than a monologue."

Husseini, a native Arabic speaker, on several occasions turned to the three Israelis on the panel for help with a Hebrew word, and once the audience shouted one for him — "Matari", meaning targets or goals.

Shamir failed to reach agreement with rebels in his right-wing Likud party, threatening a showdown next week that could kill Middle East peace efforts.

In Nabulus, the West Bank's largest city with 120,000 people, Israeli troops sealed two homes belonging to Palestinian men suspected of having killed eight

MIDEAST BRIEFS

■ Tip of iceberg: A UN human rights investigator who recently visited Iran saw "less than the tip of the iceberg" but enough to obtain a more realistic picture than before, an Iranian opposition spokesman said.

■ Aladdin Touran, a member of the People's Mujahadeen, told a news conference that the investigator, Reynaldo Galindo Pella, was permitted to visit only one jail, Tehran's Evin prison, and then saw only the workshop. (Reuters)

■ Hunger strike ends: Supporters of the people's Mojahadeen of Iran ended Tuesday their hunger strike in solidarity with Iranian political prisoners under torture.

■ The hunger strike, which took place in 12 countries simultaneously, came to an end after 11 days in front of UN headquarters in New York Tuesday morning in a special ceremony. (Kuna)

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■ That price, he said, would include expulsion of Arabs as well as massive Arab economic aid.

■ "I am ready to say that Israel will demand (as part of the price for peace) water from the Nile and may also demand oil from Saudi Arabia and Algeria."

■ He said the outcome of a settlement with Israel would be major changes in Israel's borders and a confederation between Palestinians and Jordan.

■ "This would be an incomplete peace," he said.

■ Heykal fell out with Nasser's successor, Anwar Sadat, over his agreement to disengage forces in Sinai after 1973's October war — a prelude to Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

■ Heykal also criticised Arab governments for their lacklustre support of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, calling the rebellion a lost opportunity.

Shamir angers Kohl on unification

BONN, Jan 31, (Reuters): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has infuriated Chancellor Helmut Kohl and triggered an exchange of letters by insisting that a reunified Germany will endanger Jews, a Munich newspaper reported today.

The Sueddeutsche Zeitung said Shamir had ignored Kohl's protests and refused to take back his repeated declarations that a united Germany would be a "deadly danger to Jews."

Shamir said in his letter that as prime minister of the state which has provided a refuge for the survivors of the holocaust, he reserved the right to "express our doubts and our fears," the newspaper said.

If the millions of Jewish victims had survived the holocaust, "our people would be in a different situation," he told Kohl.

The newspaper said Shamir's words angered Kohl, who regarded them as a burden on Israeli-West German ties.

In his reply, Kohl wrote that the memory of the Nazi genocide was part of the German identity. But he had to protest against the comparison between present-day West Germany and the Germany of Nazi times, the paper said.

Another, Democratic Germany existed today, Kohl said. And like other peoples, self-determination could not be withheld from the Germans.

The newspaper said Shamir responded that, although the demolition of the Berlin Wall and the spread of democracy was welcome, nobody could say for certain "what the end result of the present wave of enthusiasm and emotion will be, least of all the Jewish people."

Shamir said the Jews had an historical experience with the Germany of the 1930s and 1940s "that has left its imprint on our memories for ever."

■ Diplomats from Israel and East Germany resumed negotiations today on establishing formal relations between the two countries and settling the issue of responsibility for the Nazi holocaust.

"I am a terrorist," Tunisian on trial

My name is 'Death to the West'

PARIS, Jan 31, (AP): A Tunisian accused of directing a bombing campaign that killed 13 people in Paris told a court yesterday he is a terrorist pursuing holy war on behalf of Islam.

"I am a terrorist. One must terrorise the enemies of God, says the holy Quran, chapter eight. I am the Muslim who preaches holy war," Fouad Ali Saleh said in the second day of his trial.

Throughout the day's proceedings, Saleh remained calmer than he had at the trial's opening on Monday, when he was expelled from the courtroom for the day after saying in a loud voice, "My name is 'Death to the West.' You have killed Muslims. This is war."

Saleh, 31, his French wife Karima and eight other men — three Tunisians, two Moroccans and three Lebanese — are on trial on charges of terrorist conspiracy, possession of illegal arms, trafficking in

explosives and a variety of drug offences.

They are to be tried again later this year on murder charges in connection with the 1986 bombings, which killed 13 people and injured more than 250.

Eight other people are being tried in absentia in the current trial, expected to end next week. If convicted, Saleh and his co-defendants face 10 to 20 years in prison.

After presiding judge Henri Matherge described what the defendants are accused of doing, Saleh said, "you say transporting explosives is illegal, but the West has transported tonnes of them to colonise the Muslims, Jews and free masons were the spearhead of colonization."

In French criminal trials, the defendants are allowed from time to time to explain or comment on the evidence being presented.

Ethiopia joins growing list of African countries seeking Egyptian mediation

CAIRO, Jan 31, (Reuters): Ethiopia has joined the growing list of countries seeking Egyptian mediation despite Cairo's six fruitless months at the head of the Organisation of African Unity.

African countries ranging from Mauritania and Senegal to Sudan have asked for Egyptian help in settling complex issues that have confounded generations of OAU leaders.

But undaunted, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Tesfaye Dinka is in Cairo to hand Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak another complex problem.

An Ethiopian Foreign Ministry spokes-

man said Tesfaye was likely to discuss with Mubarak today recent attacks on ships in the Red Sea by the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

Diplomats say Egypt's mediation efforts have been hampered by the illness of Cairo's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Boutros Ghali, an expert on Africa.

Boutros Ghali, one of Egypt's most active ministers, has been out of action for months. He was due to return to Cairo this week from Paris after an operation on his liver.

"Egypt has lost its key (African) player

with Boutros out of action," said one diplomat. "It has no-one else of that stature."

Mubarak, who was chosen OAU chairman in July, has vowed to make progress on several African disputes.

"The true tradition of the OAU is trying to mediate without having great expectations of success," said a Western diplomat.

"Egypt started its OAU chairmanship with enthusiasm and commitment, but it has come to realise how intractable some problems were," said another diplomat.

A border dispute between Mauritania and Senegal remains unresolved despite

Egypt's discreet mediation, diplomats said.



Alexandrian dancing.



Sheikh Fahd kissing the Holy Quran, a present from the Iraqi delegation.



A scene from karate.

Sheikh Fahd honoured

ARAB nationals in Kuwait held a reception banquet to honour chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee, Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad for his active role in the Peace and

Friendship Games held in Kuwait between Oct 30 and Nov 12, 1989. Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad was the Deputy Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Games. The

lunction, which was attended by all Arab expatriates in Kuwait, was held at the Shaah Sea Club. A number of folkloric dances and other musical items were

staged on the occasion. Representatives of the Arab communities then presented gifts to Sheikh Fahd, who expressed his thanks.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Seminar
THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am and evening sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah. Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

Canadian Women's League
FEB 3: An invitation is extended to all Canadian women to attend this month's meeting to be held on Saturday February 3 from 4 to 6 pm in Qurtoba. For more information call 2563025 or 2563867.

SOCIAL

Saaz Aur Aawaz
SAAZ Aur Aawaz presents hit songs of yesteryears entitled "Bhule Bisle Geet" at the Indian Arts Circle on Friday Feb 2, at 6.00 pm. Special offer for families. For details contact 3985456 3610224, 5638026 after 4 pm. Win a lucky draw prize of gold or a camera.

Carnival Fiesta '90
YMCA Incredible S.C. are proud to announce their Carnival Fiesta '90 at Messilah Beach Hotel (Habiba) on Feb 22, '90.
Non-stop dancing from 8.30 pm onwards in the beat of latest sensation "Hurricane Alley" and "Neighbour".
Highlights: Best Carnival couple (fancy) and many many surprises. For details contact the organisers on Tel: 2450279 (between 8 am to 1 pm) or Tel: 392112.

Kalpak's Drama Competition
KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian Arts Circle on 9th February 1990.

Caledonian Society
The Annual Burns Night Supper will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel on Thursday, February 1st. For further information and ticket reservation phone: 5335082, 5332235 or 372691 ext. 253.

Hobby centre
A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making - For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

Konkani drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menino De Bandar's "Sonsarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Indian Arts Circle (Funaites) on 16th February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felcy, Josephine, Betty Alvares, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menino de Bandar. Tickets now available at Canary Video (Sharq) and Video Clock (near G.P.O.). Rush for tickets, ooe show only.

Spring festival
Bengali Cultural Society is organising a "Spring Festival" at the Mousetrap Theatre, Jahriya on Thursday, 1st February 1990. Parents are requested to bring their children, who are participating in various competitions, at 7 pm sharp.

11 Annual one act Play Competition
INDIAN Arts Circle announces the 11 Annual One Play Competition to be held during Eid holidays in April, 1990. The competition is open to Plays in any Indian language including English. Awards shall include Best Play (1st, 2nd & 3rd), Best Director, Best Actor & Actress, Best Child Actor, Best Stage Setting and Best Acting Performance from each team. Registration form with rules & regulations are available from Indian Arts Circle office at Funaites. Last date of submitting registration form with required details is 28th February, 1990.
Please contact IAC office (Tel: 3904817) for further details. All Indian associations engaged in theatrical activities are requested to join.

Soviet Ballet
STARS of the Soviet Ballet, featuring the Russian Ballet Company of Moscow will be touring Kuwait on February 2 and 3. They will perform 130 minute shows at Al Andalus Cinema, Hawalli. On Friday, Feb 2, the show will start at 6.00 pm. On Saturday, Feb 3, it will start at 8.00 pm. Tickets will be on sale starting Thursday 10.00 am to 8.00 pm, Friday throughout the day and during the following week at the box office.

Daniella Fastelahn
Daniella celebrates "Fastelahn" for Daacs at Gazelle Club on Friday, Feb 16, at 1 pm. For reservations please call Marianne - Tel: 3710215 ext 29 or Winnie - Tel: 5733382 before Feb 13.

Ladies International League

YOU are invited to attend the next general meeting on Monday, February 5, Sheraton Ballroom A. Our programme will be presented by Claude Maxime. Everyone welcome! Doors open 6 pm, programme begins at 7 pm promptly! Door charge.

Raga Sharqi
INTENSIVE courses (January and February) in Raga Sharqi, the classical dance form of the Middle East. For details call 4836021.

Like a Hurricane!
SEVENTH Sky's Rock Concert at Al Andalus Cinema on 15th & 16th Feb '90. Featuring Rock, Pop/Rock and Rock 'n' Roll from the 80's. For information and reservation call 5730265/2543219.

German-Speaking Cultural Association
THE next coffee morning for German-speaking ladies will be held on Sunday, Feb 4, 10 am, at Kuwait International Hotel, Old Faislaka Room. Please make an effort to attend. Newcomers are particularly welcome.

Craft Centre
MOTHERS are your hands too full with your tots on weekends? Here's a chance for you to relax and introduce them to creative art. For details contact 5635740, between 9 - 12 noon.

Daniella Coffee Morning
Next coffee morning for Dances will take place at the SAS hotel on Sunday February 4 at 9.00 am. For further information, if needed, please call Inge on 3727688 ext 207.

Kuwait Little Theatre
Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi, present the Kuwait Folk Group in concert on 14th and 15th February, at 8 pm both nights. Tickets can be ordered by phoning 3919759. Videos of the recent very successful pantomime Simbad the Sailor, can be picked up from the theatre on Sunday 4th February from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Law Graduates Forum
The next meeting of the Law Graduates Forum, the Association of Kuwait Law Graduates in Kuwait will be held on Friday Feb 2 at 6 pm. All Malayalee law graduates are cordially invited. For further information please contact Thomas Panicker, General Secretary, on 4332713.

SPORTS

Daniella Tennis 1990
Daniella organises again this year a tennis tournament for Dances. You can participate in ladies singles, men's singles and "social doubles". All Danish tennis players are welcome. Both beginners and more experienced. For further details and registration please call Carsten - 2402698 (office) or 3710215 ext. 27 (private) before Friday, Feb 2.

Now at the MBH Sports Centre
Life saving course, with Royal Life Saving Society Coach, Grade 1 Examiner will be commencing shortly. Ergocycle Fitness Computer tests and courses now available at Messilah. Jazzercise/Aerobics/Staying power/Yoga and Ballet exercise classes also available.

Coaching classes
COACHING classes for new recruits, who desire to qualify as football referees, conducted by the Indian Football Referees' Association, Kuwait (IFRA), will commence from Friday, February 23, 1990. Interested candidates may contact D'Souza, Tel: 2402631-2; or Anthony Fernandes, Tel: 2445729/2431674 or any members of the committee at the Sour Ground in person for any further information. Quanned members of any Indian states' referees' association and/or of Asia/European referees associations are welcome to join the association as members.

Ahmad Kart racing
RACING this week is for the Honda Challenge Cup sponsored by Mutawa Al Kazi Company and is a handicap meeting. Drivers will be racing against their own handicap which is based on their performance so far this season. Racing starts at 1.30 pm. Snack bar for food and drinks and rentak available for hire after the races.

7-a-side football
VARCA Sporting Centre will organise its 7th annual one day 7-a-side football festival on February 25 at Sour Grounds to mark the Kuwait National Day. The draw will be held on Friday, February 23 at 10 am. For further details and entry forms please contact VSC members or Tel: 5331940 or 2410461 and 4765070.

Shutto Cup
KUWAIT Cricket League is organising a cricket match between the teams of Indian and Pakistani veterans living in

Kuwait, at K.C.L. ground on 2nd February 1990. The match will start at 9 am.

Kuwait Cricket takes this opportunity and announces that a lucky draw will be held with at least fifty prizes which includes colour TV, VCR, sewing machine, watches, cameras and many more household items are waiting for the winners. All are cordially invited. For further information please call, tel. 5332052 S. Rizvi.

HOTELS

Kuwait International Hotel
FIT FOR LIFE: Qualified Austrian masseur specialising in foot reflexology, acupressure, athletic and relaxation massage available everyday. Tennis clinics oo-going for all levels of play including Junior, Ladies' and Adult sessions with Frank Novak - an experienced Canadian coach and tennis professional. Classes total 4 weeks in length and meet twice each week. Private coaching also available and fun tennis sessions for the family. Ladies' Keep Fit Classes on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ladies' Sauna now offers a 50 per cent discount on the usual entrance fee. Ladies' Day on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm. For details please call: 2530000/8050 (Recreation).

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 9.45 Sahab Al Khair Programme
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
- 10.15 Sabab Al Khair Programme
- 10.30 Rejal Fi Al Masyada: Arabic Serial (part 7), starring Sayed Zayan, Imad Rashad, Olla Rami and Naema Al Sagheer
- 11.30 The Open University: Cultural Programme
- 12.00 Sabab Al Khair Programmes
- 12.15 Hwar Wa Ngham: Local Variety Programme, prepared by Khaled Bu Hameed and presented by Nervana Idrees
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 1.30 Min Ghair Kalam: Variety Programme, presented by Hassan Mustafa
- 2.15 Discovery: Cultural Programme
- 3.00 Varieties
- 3.30 Liqa Al Khamees: Local variety programme, prepared by Jameel Hmoud and presented by Ameena Al Sharah
- 5.00 Saham Al Fadh: cartoon serial (part 3)
- 5.30 Cartoons
- 5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
- 6.00 Al Fareso Al Aashag: historical Serial (part 12)
- 7.00 Maa Al Talaba: local programme, prepared by Ministry of Education School Activity Department (part 9)
- 8.00 Kul Al Fonoon: local programme, prepared by Hassan Awwara presented by Rasha Majdi
- 8.30 Maa Al Islam: religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Khaled Al Mazkoor
- 9.00 News In Arabic
- 9.45 Al Laaboon Fi Al Nar: Arabic serial (part 10)

- 10.30 The Children Magazine: Local children's programme
- 11.00 Al Ahadeeth Al Mawdoaa: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael
- 11.15 Live from the Grand Mosque for the Friday prayers and speeches
- 12.25 Alwan: Variety programme, prepared by Mohammed Saeed Fares and presented by Fatema Abdul Wahab
- 1.00 News summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
- 1.20 Al Hadeeth Al Deeni: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Mohammed Metwalli Al Sharawi
- 2.00 The Friday Break: Local variety programme, prepared by Qasem Abdul Qader
- 4.00 Al Hoh Wa Snoon: Arabic serial (part 2), starring Hussain Fahmi, Issad Younis
- 5.00 Cartoons
- 5.30 Variety
- 5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
- 6.00 Kuwait television programmes to a week
- 6.30 Kuwait in a Week: Local programme, prepared and presented by Kuwait Television News Control Department
- 7.00 The Living Ploet: Cultural programme (part 5)
- 8.00 The Family Programme: Local programme, prepared by Tahaoi Al Burtoqli and presented by Fatema Rashed
- 8.45 Hadeeth Al Osboo: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Ali Al Jassar
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Wrestling
- 10.30 Asma Laha Thekra: Local variety late night programme, prepared by Qasem Abdul Qader and presented by Fatema Abdul Wahab
- 11.45 News summary
- 11.50 The World Today via Satellite
- 12.15 Holy Quran and closedown

- the scientist, becomes a victim of fraudulence. Andrew unveils the thief who took the secret information...
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 The Island Son
- 9.30 The Bill Cosby Show "The Boys Of Winter" "Inspire of requests from his son, his son-in-law and his coach, Dr. Hustable refuses to play basketball... But his wife knows the secret."
- 10.00 More Real People. A variety of shows on people who practice unusual hobbies...
- 10.30 Feature Film Alvin Karpis Starring: Robert Foxworth, Eileen Keckart David Wayne. Alvin Karpis was one of the nation's most wanted notorious criminals during early 1930's. His apprehension marked the first time in a long career that Hoover, then director of the FBI personally affected the capture of a wanted FBI criminal.
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

Friday

- 6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran
- 6.10 Cartoons
- 6.30 Walt Disney Movie "Moon cussers" The ships of a commercial company are mysteriously wrecked in certain area near Mooncusser Island. J. Walkers plans to find out the secret. He meets a boy who helps him in his mission...
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Breaking Away. Recreational and entertainment activities carried out in various parts in Kuwait...
- 8.45 Rescue 911. The team carries out a certain number of rescue operations where a number of people are saved in due time...
- 9.30 The Weekend Programme. A weekly local programme on variety of topics and local activities and events.
- 10.00 Roseanne "Working Overtime" Rosie is asked to work overtime. Her husband, "Dad" comes late everyday and she has to deal with this situation in a humorous way...
- 10.30 The Mystery Wheel "Tongs" One of Oliver's students refuses to accept a scholarship and insists on defecating his family against another Chinese family... Professor Oliver has to find out the cause of this families warfare...
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'actualite

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Smurfs. A cartoon series for children
- 6.30 Mr. Wizard's World. A variety of magic acts and illusions... training children on how to use or deal with information...
- 7.00 Wild America. "River Of The Bears" During the Summer salmon return into the river a good feed for bears...
- 7.30 My Secret Power. "The Set Up" "Jef",

Friday

- 9.00 The opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 9.45 Cartoon serial
- 10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)

Al Andalus Arabic film
Al Sahmiah Hall booked
Al Hama No Where To Hide
Al Firdous Mera Farz
Fakhaed Daku O Darwish
Al Jahra Ninja Destroyer
Granada Hall booked
Salaibikat Adikkir Rippu
Jeeb Malyamal
Ahmadi Drive-in Arabic film

Friday

Al Andalus Arabic film
Al Sahmiah Hall booked
Al Hama No Where To Hide
Al Firdous Mera Farz
Fakhaed Daku O Darwish
Al Jahra The Ultimate Ninja
Granada Hall booked

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.16 am
Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.05 pm
Maghreb	5.25
Isha	6.45
Friday	
Fajr	5.16 am
Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.05 pm
Maghreb	5.26
Isha	6.46



Ballet stars to perform Feb 2-3

Top ranking Bolshoi star soloists Vyacheslav Gordeev and Irina Lazareva will lead a spectacular extravaganza of light classical ballet at the Al Andalus Cinema on February 2 at 6.00 pm and February 3 at 8 pm. Tickets are available at the cinema.

AL ANDALUS

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Dollar, gold rally as investors seek safe havens

Prices plunge as markets feel full force of Gorbachev factor

LONDON, Jan 31, (Reuters): If traders needed any convincing that the stability of world financial markets is inextricably linked to the fate of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, yesterday's market panic will have driven the point home.

News reports from Moscow that Gorbachev was considering standing down as Communist Party chief swept New York in late trading, throwing the markets into turmoil.

It turned out to be a dry run. The US State Department was sceptical, traders drew breath and waited to see if it was true. After European markets started trading this morning the Soviet leader himself denied the report.

But in an initial hour of panic in New

York, the dollar surged against the West German mark and Japanese yen, share prices plunged and bond prices soared as financial markets felt the full force of "the Gorbachev factor."

"The West is a good deal more transfixed by Gorbachev than the Soviet population is," said William Newman, economist at Moscow Narodny Bank in London. "In purely economic terms there is little reason why markets should be affected."

But as Newman and other economists readily acknowledge, there is a world of difference between long-term analysis of the ramifications of a setback for Gorbachev's policies and the kneejerk reaction of markets geared to split-second trading.

It is also a fact not lost on Moscow.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said today he recognised the impact that rumours on Gorbachev's position had on world financial markets and stock exchanges.

"All the more reason for responsibility in dealing with such rumours," he told reporters at a Moscow news briefing.

"I don't know where these rumours originate. There are a lot of them in the world at the moment that Gorbachev is going to resign, that he is not going to survive. There are no grounds for that. And it makes stock exchanges nervous. It's bad for the Western economy."

Asked by one Western journalist if the Soviet Union could not profit from market

reaction to rumours in its own financial dealings, a grinning Gerasimov replied: "Perhaps we should use these movements to the benefit of our own economy."

Western economists draw two lessons from yesterday's scare:

■ Markets have become psychologically geared to political events in the Soviet Union and particularly to Gorbachev as the flag-bearer for détente. That can at times outweigh the normal focus on economic indicators of growth and inflation.

■ If it happens once, it can happen again and trading is likely to remain volatile in the short run. Stock markets were already badly shaken in January as problems in the Baltic states and Armenia and Azerbaijan put Gorbachev under pressure.

"This is how the markets reacted this time."

Rumours started sweeping New York in the early afternoon that Gorbachev had resigned. They were quickly pegged to a television report by the Moscow correspondent of the Cable News network saying the Soviet leader was considering quitting as head of the Communist Party but would try to remain president.

The dollar, gold and bond prices rallied as investors sought "safe havens" stock prices slumped. The impact was cushioned as traders tried to interpret what the report, if true, meant.

Meanwhile, chief dealers and economists in London were being bombarded by calls from their US operations. Central banks

kept a close eye on the markets but did no more than stay in normal telephone contact, one monetary official in Europe said.

Two hours into the panic US Secretary of State James Baker voiced scepticism, saying the report "was just a rumour." A measure of calm returned. US stocks were boosted by computer-based buying and the dollar gave up some of its gains.

Tokyo markets had a quieter session. Shortly after European trading got under way today Gorbachev himself dismissed the television report as groundless.

The panic had been short-lived. But it will add weight to the arguments of economists who say that markets overreacted last year to upheavals in East Europe.

The dollar has slid nine per cent against

the mark since the opening of the Berlin Wall in November. Share prices in Tokyo, New York and London hit record levels at the turn of the year.

"A good deal of the dollar's fall last year was caused by the hype over democratisation in Eastern Europe," said Paul Chertkov, economist at brokers Dresdner Bank in London. "Markets were looking for an excuse to correct the trend."

In the longer-term, economists believe the fate of Gorbachev will have little relevance for markets and probably a limited impact on the global economy. The "peace dividend" — lower Western military spending — has yet to materialise but would be the major casualty if there were a return to cold war days.

Saudis, Japan to strengthen oil ties

Nazer visit gives new impetus

TOKYO, Jan 31, (Reuters): A five-day visit by Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer has laid the basis for improved co-operation, including the kingdom's entry into Japan's petroleum products business and sharp rises in crude oil sales, government and industry sources said today.

Results of the visit pleased both government and industry, despite the absence of many specific accords, because it revealed Saudi Arabia's commitment to stronger bilateral economic ties, the sources said.

"Nazer conveyed to us that his country is turning into a smart and sincere business partner, shedding its former image of a rigid and arrogant seller of oil," said one oil company official.

Nazer's schedule featured meetings with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and International Trade and Industry Minister Hikaru Matsunaga. He also visited several oil companies, including Nippon Oil, Idemitsu Kosan and Cosmos Oil.

Nazer was accompanied by a number of Saudi Arabian oil officials, including Aramco president Ali Naimi.

In all the meetings, Nazer repeated the kingdom's two major objectives in Japan in the 1990s.

One is to regain its position as top crude oil supplier to the huge Japanese market and the second is to enter its refining and retailing businesses through joint ventures with local companies, the sources said.

"Saudi Arabia has plans to raise its crude output capacity to some 10 million barrels per day and needs to secure outlets," one oil company analyst said. "Then of course, Japan is important."

Saudi Arabia's share in Japan's total crude imports fell to 13.1 per cent or 472,000 barrels per day in 1989, from 38.6 per cent or one million barrels per day in 1984.

The figure contrast with those for the United Arab Emirates, which kept its share at 20.4 per cent in 1989 compared with 21.7 per cent five years ago.

The drop in the Saudi share is partly due to its rigid marketing system, sources said. It usually sticks to term contracts and is reluctant to sell on a spot basis, they said.

Many Japanese refiners are ready to raise the volume of direct term oil purchases from the Gulf due to declining supplies from sources such as China and Indonesia, they said.

To secure stable oil supplies over the long term, Japan is likely to open its refining and oil product retail businesses to Gulf producers, many industry sources and analysts said.

Nazer and Mideg agreed to start exchanges of high-level officials several times annually starting this year.

"The two governments will build up fundamentals for the big entrance through these talks. Time is almost up for Japan with its industry deregulation programme finishing in a couple of years," one analyst said.

Al Chababi, however, did not give a precise figure for the new estimate, which he said resulted from an intensive exploration programme.

He said Iraq will remain committed to its Opec quota of 3.14 million barrels a day and will not exceed it.

Iraqi oil reserves exceed 100b barrels

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Jan 31, (AP): Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chababi said estimated Iraqi oil reserves now exceed 100 billion barrels following new discoveries in various parts of the country, a magazine reported today.

Al Chababi was quoted by the weekly Alif Baa as

saying the new estimates show reserves in Iraq could exceed by far the previous estimate of 100 billion barrels, released two years ago.

"Our geological studies and discoveries have given irrefutable evidence that the oil reserves are much higher than what we knew before," he said.

Al Chababi, however, did not give a precise figure for the new estimate, which he said resulted from an intensive exploration programme.

He said Iraq will remain committed to its Opec quota of 3.14 million barrels a day and will not exceed it.

Expat finance

Prospect of investing money

By Tony Mustafa

Overseas Financial Services

THE previous three articles, full of doom and gloom, have been directed towards the twin dangers of living too soon or living too long — the life assurance and pensions facets of financial planning. Let's turn now to the rather more cheerful prospect of investing money to meet a short-term need or ambition.

Just to clear the decks, let me say that, if the requirement or, cash point is going to arise inside two years, then the answer is relatively simple-shop around the banks, building societies and other deposit accounts and take the best interest rate you can get consistent with safety. The trader markets could well provide a more attractive alternative for you, but the attendant risk is so high as to be unacceptable. Choose also the currency which, at "point of sale" is the one being used and resist the ever-present temptation to have a little flutter on the currency markets. These are short-term requirements and, as I have said from the outset of this series, short-term is the province of the banks!

Medium-term in my book means from an absolute minimum of two years up to about ten years. The sorts of things you will be planning to provide for in this time-span include school fees for the children, a cash base for retirement income, university costs, perhaps a subsidy for a post graduate period — the purchase of a new car/boat or, most commonly, the comfort cushion of having a substantial tax-free cash reserve should things go wrong.

As is all planning, the first step, I would suggest, is to establish your goals and then begin to devise the means of getting there. Christopher Columbus did not know where he was going when he set off, did not know where he was at when he got there, did not know how to exploit his advantage when it arose and did it all on borrowed money — he died out of favour with the Spanish court and relatively penniless. Modern day cruise ships, on the other hand, usually have a schedule and fixed plan and, depending on whether your statistics are pre or post Titanic, usually make it!

The next step in the procedure is to establish just how much you can devote to regularly setting aside for the purpose or purposes decided upon. This may seem a very simple procedure, but what I am actually talking about is a personal budget. Now these may sound ludicrously basic, but I find, when I ask these questions to clients, that very few people can put even a vague figure on how much they can reasonably put aside every month/year, after catering for the absolute essentials like pension and life assurance.

The rule of thumb, which I find works, is to take the figure first given and divide by two — then we are getting a little more realistic. There is the annual holiday, Christmas, Eid, the rugby tour, young sister's wedding and the emergency fund all to be taken care of inside the next seven or eight months and these do not usually spring immediately to mind. Do not despair at this point — the figure you are left with would still have been unthinkable had you not come offshore!

The next move is the really difficult one because this step will commit you to a course of action and the operative word here is commit! There are still several courses of action open, but whichever one you choose means that you are submitting yourself to a form of self-discipline and this usually involves a penalty of some sort should you deviate from the chosen path or give in to the self-indulgence of returning to your previous hand-to-mouth type approach. A penalty, self-imposed or otherwise, is a good idea since its existence tends to outlive the burst of enthusiasm present when you first put your foot on this particular road.

Now, as to the particular scheme used to fund your requirement, there are a hundred and one options open to you and here we come back to the skill of your financial consultant who should be able to match product with need. Generally speaking, if the point of use is going to arise inside about six years, it is best to go for a straight unit trust or mutual fund purchase scheme, designed to fit the risk profile which you have decided on.

Even if the requirement is in seven years from now and involves a single lump-sum payment, it may well be better to opt of the unit purchase scheme.

However, if that point occurs eight or more years hence, then it is nearly always best to go for one of the many life assurance-linked savings plan on offer to expatriates. I use to words life assurance-linked guardedly, since I happen to be of the school of thinking which would never commit money, either my own or clients, to conventional life policies as a savings medium.

I do not want any one, life company or other, to have the facility to levy whatever charges they wish against my funds and, furthermore, to transfer excess profits to "reserve" whenever the managers have a good year. To my mind that is merely giving the management an excuse to under perform in years to come and, whilst the principle may be admirable, the practise has too many loopholes for my liking!

Everytime give me a united linked life plan, where I, or the client contract to save a certain amount per month or year, where the charges are plainly stated at outset and where the accrued profit element at maturity date is mine and not in the funds' reserves! This is particularly so in the case of Continental Europeans where the usual or normal life scheme offers, by comparison, an appallingly poor savings medium, with returns of about four per cent compound. Defenders of these schemes will immediately, in their defence, point to the currency risk over the longer time span, but, even allowing for that, returns far in excess of that figure can be achieved in the international market place.

In the British, Australian and Canadian cases, the huge impact of united linked life policies has forced the life companies to modify the "transfer to reserves" policy enormously and to trim their "expense ration" to point where conventional policies can offer some semblance of being able to compete with their unit linked cousins.

Why involve life assurance at all, I hear you ask? After all, we are interested in savings here, not life assurance. Well, the answer, in nearly every case, is that other half of the inevitable duo, the tax-man! Whilst you are not subject to the attention of your own home-tax-authorities whilst you are overseas (provided you are "Non-resident for tax purposes"), once you return to your homeland, your world-wide income is taxed there, wherever it arises. A British citizen, for instance, may leave his capital offshore whilst an Indian or Irish citizen may not — in any case the interest or earnings coming from that capital will be taxed in full as if it were earnings in the home country once residence has been taken up again.

The one exception to this general rule is that the proceeds of a qualifying life assurance policy, if taken after the expiry of the minimum qualifying period, is usually free of tax. That qualifying period varies from country to country — ten years in the case of Australia, Britain, Ireland and Sweden, twelve years in Germany and Holland, six years in France, five years in Denmark and so on! The contracts used are usually whole of life type policies, but with payments limited to the relevant qualifying periods. There are various devices available to ensure that, even though the holder returns to his/her country of origin in the meantime, sufficient funds are available to the life company to continue the payments through the qualifying years.

On return home, it may well be that the holder must register the fact that such an investment policy is being held — it is very important that such regulations are adhered to, absolutely to the letter, but these will be spelled out in detail by the financial consultant, who designs the scheme (provided, of course, you tell him you are going home) before you go.

There would be little point in keeping your savings in one huge policy since, when you need cash, you must shatter the whole piggy-bank to get out the sum you want. The remainder would then have to be invested in some medium back at home, generating, in its turn, interest or earnings and thus incurring tax — an abortive exercise. To avoid this, the simple expedient of entering one hundred numbers in place of the one and issuing one hundred exactly similar policies (without an extra administration charge) gets over the problem.

Instead of one policy for one thousand pounds per month, a "cluster" of one hundred is registered on the computer, each of ten pounds per month. The effect of this at the other end is that, in year twelve for instance, you find you wish to withdraw cash — you encash the relevant member of policies, leaving the remainder to continue growing offshore, free from the unwelcome attentions of any taxman.

This single facility, if you weigh it up, probably outweighs all other considerations when considering the investment media for the seven years onwards requirements. In the later years, i.e. seven to ten, it is possible to take loans against the arrangements, thus preserving its integrity until the ten year point.

Bank reports steady profit

BAHRAIN, Jan 31, (Reuters): Kuwait Asia Bank E.C., a Bahrain-based offshore bank, said today its net profit remained steady in 1989 at the previous year's level of \$6.6 million.

Revenues rose 15 per cent to \$12.6 million while expenses were cut by 24 per cent to \$5.1 million, the bank said in a statement.

"This reflects the bank's continuing efforts to streamline operations and successful implementation of cost-cutting measures," it quoted senior vice-president Alphonso d'Costa as saying.

The bank, owned by financial institutions in Kuwait and Bahrain, made no loan loss provisions in 1989 compared with \$2.4 million in 1988.

Oil strike

Algiers, Jan 31, (Opecna): Soatrah, the Algerian national oil company has announced the discovery of oil reserves in an area it jointly operates with Agip of Italy.

The strike has come from a shaft sunk by Agip to a depth of 3,880 metres at Bir Kebaa Nord, the second such discovery in the Zemoul El-Kebir region.

Sonatrach and Agip signed a contract in December 1987 to boost research and development at the site.

Second best oil discovery

Bechraji to get a face-lift

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Jan 31: India's Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has drawn up detailed plans for the development of the Bechraji oil field in north Gujarat in western India.

The plan entails drilling of about 140 wells and pushing up the production rate to nearly 7,500 barrels a day by 1992-93. The field, which has been delineated by drilling 20 wells, is currently producing about 388 barrels per day from six wells after being put on trial production in July, 1988.

Discovered in September, 1987, Bechraji is fast emerging as a major potential oil bearing area and is being rated as the second best discovery in recent years in Gujarat after the Gandhar field.

The field is situated in the heavy oil belt area around Mehana and is flanked by oil fields on the eastern and southern sides. The present estimated geological reserves of the field are about 30 million tonnes, which is expected to be upgraded further soon.

Banks on profit plateau after boom

ISTANBUL, Jan 31, (Reuters): The boom days have ended for foreign banks in Turkey, with prospects for 1990 looking even bleaker than a generally flat 1989.

"Sweet pickings are finished in Turkey," said one Western banker who asked not to be named. "Last year was a painful one."

There were no windfall profits for foreign banks in 1989, Robin Saunders, assistant general manager at Chase Manhattan Bank N.A.'s Istanbul branch, told Reuters. "From my point of view there weren't any clear winners."

Rising competition from Turkish banks plus a downturn in the economy, with exports stagnant and weak

ONGC is considering a cycle steam injection followed by steam flooding to enhance the recoverable reserves from three million tonnes to twelve million tonnes and increase the production rate to about 15,000 barrels per day by 1995.

ONGC has also taken for the first time the drilling of two horizontal wells in an onland area in the field. These wells are expected to produce several times more than the conventional vertical wells. If the effort proves successful, more horizontal wells would be drilled later, ONGC sources said.

Meanwhile, thanks to the use of advanced exploration techniques, ONGC has also discovered west Bechraji, an extension of the main field, in 1989.

Bechraji is located in the Cambay basin, which extends from Mehana in north Gujarat to Ankleshwar in south Gujarat, a region in which some 70 prospects have already been found. Recent exploration results have led ONGC to believe that the basin could yield reserve accretion through intensive exploration. Discoveries like Gandhar, Nada and Bechraji have reinforced this optimism.

economic growth, left most foreign banks with little or no increase in profits in 1989 over 1988.

The Istanbul branch of the US First National Bank of Boston made pre-tax profit of \$3.8 billion (\$3.8 billion), about the same as in 1988, and Saudi Arabian Bank made 7,059 billion lira (3.06 million), slightly down from 7,098 billion (3.09 million).

Manufacturers Haover did better, with 1989 profits up 25 per cent at 19.8 billion lira (\$8.6 million). But in 1988 profits jumped 244 per cent in dollar terms.

Turkey's economy was at the end of a boom in 1988, with foreign trade four times higher than in 1982 and gross domestic product (GDP) rising 3.4 per cent.

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After 50 years, people still wonder what makes Sammy run

NEW YORK (Reuters): After 50 years of betraying friends, stabbing strangers in the back and discovering new ways to claw his way to the top, Sammy Glick is still running.

"What Makes Sammy Run," America's classic novel of the amoral hustler, has just been issued in a 50th anniversary edition and is soon to be made into a movie. And its creator, Budd Schulberg, says he plans to write another novel about the man no one likes.

Schulberg, 75, has big dreams for his latest adventures with Sammy, the nervy newspaper copyboy who steals someone else's work and sells it — and himself — to Hollywood, where he

becomes a human shark swallowing anything in his way.

The author hopes to line up Hollywood's hottest star, Tom Cruise, to play Sammy in the film and he wants to get Sidney Lumet, a specialist in the darker sides of life, to direct.

"Cruise is interested and is considering it. He's awfully impressive, almost another Brando," says Schulberg, who wrote one of Brando's greatest films "On the Waterfront."

Sammy may not have friends — he may not even want them — but he has fame and legions of fans. Never mind that his wife cheats on him — on their wedding day. In 50 years, he's sold more than a million books and become

a time-honoured symbol of ruthless ambition.

Schulberg created Sammy as a composite of the hard, watch-your-back characters he met growing up in Hollywood as the son of Paramount's chief of production, B.P. Schulberg.

"When I was 16 years old, I had writers come to me and ask me to work on a film treatment (script) with them because it would be a good way to get to my father," Schulberg recalled recently.

When the book was published, Hollywood felt betrayed.

"They had a meeting of studio heads, including my father, and Louis Mayer, the chief of MGM, said I

should be deported," Schulberg remembered.

"And my father said: 'For Christ's sake, Louis, he is the only novelist ever to come from Hollywood. Where the hell are you going to deport him (to), Catalina Island?'"

So, the studio chiefs "virtually ran me out of town," Schulberg said.

Unrepentant, Schulberg went on to write "On the Waterfront," one of the most famous independently produced movies of all time.

Schulberg says that the epic about union corruption was produced by a man who rivalled Sammy forchutzpah (Yiddish for shameless audacity), the late, legendary Sam Spiegel, who once

called himself S.P. Eagle — so, Hollywood wags said, he wouldn't sound Jewish.

It was a touch that Sammy himself would have appreciated.

Schulberg recalls that Spiegel once rented a yacht to take two of his famous friends, Truman Capote and Marlene Dietrich, to a film festival where "On the Waterfront" was playing.

The writer notes that Spiegel wrote off the costs of the trip as "promotional expenses," but didn't invite Schulberg or Elia Kazan, the film's director, to go along.

"On the Waterfront" contained one of cinema's great lines — "I could have

been a contender." That is what Brando, playing boxer Terry Malloy, says to his brother about ruining his boxing career by making him throw a fight.

Schulberg said he has been a lifelong fight fan and boxers were always talking about the could-have-beens of life. Like this creation of Sammy, his "contender" line was born of memory mixed with art.

Schulberg, who is Jewish, was accused for years of promoting anti-Semitism because Sammy is Jewish. He points out that not only was Sammy Jewish but so were all his victims.

Anyway, today that accusation has worn off. People are called Sammy

Glicks regardless of their race or religion.

The filming of "What Makes Sammy Run" is supposed to start in the summer and then Schulberg wants to update Sammy's life, take him from the 1940s to the 1960s and home some of his rough edges, teach him to appreciate art and talk a little nicer. Sammy may even go to a psychiatrist, or two, or three.

But Schulberg has no plans to turn Sammy into a choir boy.

The heel remains a heel and Sammy, still running and reaching, may even eye taking over one of the conglomerates that now control Hollywood.

India's future filmmakers turning more European, more alien

National Film Archives left unused and abandoned

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

THE FTIL or the Film and Television Institute of India stands proudly on the wide haloes spaces in Poona where once thrived the Prahrat Studios which made classics. The training school uses the same sound stages, make-up rooms, theatres, halls etc. along with the lovely outdoor locations behind. But the times and trends have changed. Dedication and discipline have flown out. The influence on India's future film makers is much more European and alien.

A few yards away stands the National Film Archive of India, which stores the nation's film heritage. But its imposing new building shows no signs of functioning after years and the work continues from the old wooden Jaykar bungalow. Devotion and care for the rare negatives, prints and collection material are not visible.

Should important organisations get neglected or dislocated because they are government run? Is it not the duty of the staff as well as students and researchers to pay full attention and make the units grow? But many of them take it just as cosy government service which brings regular pay and other perks, like foreign trips or scholarships. The students are a rowdy lot who get unjustified, launch protests against the establishment, adopt an easy life and upset the whole system.

When I visited the FTIL, the biggest film school in Asia, with foreign students on its rolls, two-thirds of the Indian trainees were dragging their strike over the third month. About 15 to 20 students were reporting for semesters and classes, when the public exchequer spends thousands to subsidise each student. The fight was against principal/director R. Verma whom the students want to remove, as he did not permit extra time for shooting of diploma films. Actually, new-wave film maker of Bombay who wants to become the director was fomenting the trouble behind the scenes.

The institute wore a deserted look, except for the theatre where two study screenings are held

every day. The blackboard hanging outside boldly announced "Congratulations" for last year's diploma-holder Farida Mehta, whose film "Hawa Ka Rang" had won the top short-film prize at Italy's Turin film festival. It included a cash award, which will come to about Rs 75,000. The award plaque was displayed in the chamber of the FTIL dean John Shankarman-galan, a gentle intellectual from Kerala. He had attended the festival and told us of the highlights. The film is about two women

since 1960 and have made a big name for themselves. The acting course (now closed down) gave birth to some top stars of the film industry. Directors and technicians also brought a new wave of trained talents to the haphazard world of Bollywood. Seeing these films again revives many memories. A raw boneylooking Shatrughan Sinha acted in "Angry Young Man" Opposite Jaya Bhaduri (Bachchan), much before the big Bachchan claimed the title. Jaya who studied acting there,

Kumar Shahni, Mani Kaul were also trained at the same school. Other famous names who float down the leaves of the Institute's past are Danny, Om Puri, Zarina Wahab, Rama Vij, Rehana Sultan, Kanwaljeet, Rameshwari, Asha Sachdev, Satish Shah, Raza Murad, Mukesh Khanna, Ranjeeta, Navin Nischol, Suresh Chawla, Pinal, Dilip Dhadwan, Vyjayendra, Tom Alter, Vijay Arora, Rita Bhaduri, Jalal Agha, Rakesh Bedi and others who had a short career in the industry. The surprise



'Hawa Ka Rang' with versatile Surekha Sikri.

lost their identity and the specialising comes only at the end. Even when they shoot their diploma films, they are not sure in which field they will be able to shine. This creates a demoralising effect, followed by lack of work in the industry.

It has become very difficult to satisfy the students, at present being given only courses in direction, photography, recording and editing. They seem to come there and start believing that they are stars. Indiscipline and disruption of schedules have been chronic problems faced by many principals, including Girish Karnad, while other big names refuse to take up the thorny post. The governing council has also failed to bring order, though made up of film personalities and led by people like Adoor Gopalakrishnan, Mrinal Sen, Shyam Benegal etc. The only way out is to get legal bonds signed by the students when they join. They are after all in a school. They should follow the discipline, obey the chief and the staff and be attached to learning. If not, they should be asked to leave at once. France's famed film school L'Idhec closed because of these problems. We don't want a repeat case.

The National Film Archive needs perfect vaults to keep the films of the last 75 years. But the costly new building has turned out defective the basement gets flooded in monsoon. At present the films and negatives lie scattered at different godowns in the institute. The archive has no regular system of screenings, discussions, publication or reference records. The director P.K. Nair, due to retire within a year, keeps himself tied down due to red tape.



Jeetendra (left), Anrita Singh (right).



sharing a room. One goes to work while the other is forced to stay home.

The Turin fete did a singular honour to the Indian Film Institute by holding a 4-day retrospective for its silver jubilee. Several films made by past students were screened and there was an immediate demand for them. Some TV networks wanted to buy them from John but he did not have the authority to negotiate. We must remember that highly talented students have passed out of the school

also played in "A boy & a girl", "Chetna", "Birds and Bees" and "In Panchgani" as the lover of Anil Dhavan. And today's top-per Mithun acted in "Love Is", "Anahat" and "Pathik". Shabana Azmi is seen in the films "Ek Din Ki Baat Hai" and "Masoom". Later, she was to become more famous with the full-length "Masoom" with Naseeruddin, who had also acted in "Hero" for FTIL, directed by Shyam Benegal, much before he did "Hero Hiralal". Directors like Saeed Mirza, Vinod Chopra,

ise catches are Subhash Ghai desperately trying to be an actor in "Abhisar", "In Search of God" and also "Fear" directed by Ritwik Ghatak. And also Asha Chandra who tried to be a star through "Perhaps Tomorrow". The title turned out to be prophetic, as she became a star-maker running a school.

But it is a tragedy that in the last five years or so, not a single big name has emerged from the FTIL either in acting, direction or technical aspects. The 2-year integrated course makes them

Behind the screen

Dharmendra is proud about the record of having three heroes in the house... himself, Sunny and Bobby. He claims that even Raj Kapoor could not achieve this at any single time. That's because Raj had become fat, old and no longer a hero, when his sons got stardom. Moreover, none of the three sons were successful heroes at the same time. Each proved a flop by turns, except Rishi. So there were never three heroes in the same house.

Amrita Singh has become quite desperate after "Jadoogar" and "Toofan". She wants success and prominence at any cost. She even agreed to dress up as a masked bandit for a recent film, though she knew she looked damn funny. Her explanation was simple. If Rekha and Jaya Prada can look weird in "Madam X" and "Zakhmi Zameen", she too can do it and be in great company.

Neena Gupta's meetings with Vivian Richards during his Indian visit became the talk of the town. Some malicious people said that she pestered him for maintenance money for Masba (the mystery love child). Others more malicious said that she was in love all over again. And she wanted to be an unwed mother for the second time. This would also send double shock waves in the industry and get her more

publicity and perhaps also some more small roles.

Sri Devi has only a loud laugh (one of her rare hearty ones) when queried about her marriage, especially to Vijay Amrithaj. She seems to be quizzed about why she should settle in America where there is no market for her, when the going is so good in India, at least for the coming five years.

Salma Agha's idea of making Raj Kumar Kohli transfer a Pakistani TV play into "Pati Pati Aur Tsunami" seems to have backfired. The film is largely complete but there are no buyers, as they don't like the subject. Salma puts the blame on co-stars Mithun and Farha. "They have no proper market rating." Look who is talking.

Star slips

Madhuri: I don't need a husband now. I don't feel like sharing my success and joy with anybody at this point.

Nana Patkar: Chunky can do any role. In "Parinda" he could have done not only my role but even Madhuri's role.

Zeba Bakhtiar: I can't think of doing a sex-show. I cannot wear a wet sari and write on the grass. I can't give wet dreams to anybody. Remember, my dad is a Pathan.

Jeetendra: I don't want my children to feel depressed on reading about my affairs.

Mini meet

Anil Kapoor

Anil Kapoor with a string of hits is being crowned as the "Number 1", especially since Amitabh is going down and there is no other competition. But Anil is still considered a basically comical-musical hero on whom critics can't be risked. Here in an informal chat, he expresses some of his current feelings.

Q. How have you digested the recent spell of success? Do you feel you are indeed at the top-most rung?

A. No, no... never cultivate an inflated ego, though I may lose my temper sometimes, when I get impatient over work not done properly. But I have no false notions. I have worked very very hard to achieve this success. I had to struggle through small film titles and jobs for reaching here. So I can see it in the right perspective and digest it.

Q. Have you over-taken all other actors?

A. Such ideas are a myth. All good artists retain their own place. I am one of them. I did not come to over-take people but only to make my own niche. I have seen the industry closely. Nothing is permanent. Stars come, stars go. It's better to keep a sweet tongue.

Q. What is your motto?

A. An actor has no fixed destination, he must live up to the challenges of new goals. Being a tostar is only one routine goal. There's a way room at the top.

Q. What sets you apart from others?

A. My individual way and style. The "Eeshwar" role was like that. Even the best of other actors may not have done it as I did. But why compare actors at all, like horses? We are not of different breeds and we are not in a race, with people laying bets on us.

Q. You have not done many solo films. Don't you share your credit with co-stars like Jackie?

A. Of course, "Ram Lakhan" and "Parinda" would not be the same without him. It's only that one actor has a more popular



type of role, in which he wins over the audience, by humouring them. Acting by the whole film team should share its credit.

Q. Is it not a pity that your heroines are reduced to show-pieces?

A. Not all the time. In our own family productions, the heroine gets equal or more footage. Remember Sri Devi stole the show in "Mr India". In "Roop Ki Rani" she is equally important.

Q. So what else is coming up grandly?

A. Rakesh Roshan's "Krishna Kanhaiya" in which I have a double role. But nobody can predict its fate. We thought so about "Kaala Bazar" and it turned out to be just medium.

Q. Will you do a film like "Karma" where veterans steal the show?

A. Well, it hurts if you work hard and only others are given credit. Still, I always respect elders and work with them, even asking them to shine a little more. After all, they have sacrificed so much more than us. But (smiling), Subhash Ghai has luckily offered "Saudagar" to me, though Jackie is in it. Is that a hint.....?



Nina Gupta: Masba sequel II?

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Amman wasting tourist potential

AMMAN, (Reuters): Scantily-clad Finns crowding the Red Sea beach at Aqaba are good news for Jordan's fledgling tourist industry, but Islamic fundamentalists say they are offensive.

"The people of Aqaba are getting fed up with the flagrant clothes of tourists... this leads to moral corruption," Muslim Brotherhood deputy Youssef Al Ashm told parliament last week.

The success of Islamists in last year's election is just the latest worry for tour operators who say Jordan may lose out in a competitive world market unless it takes tourism more seriously.

"Until now we have not realised that tourism is an industry and a source of the hard currency Jordan needs. To make money you must spend it," said Near East Tours manager George Bawab.

Jordan, struggling with a huge foreign debt, earned more than \$600 million from tourism in 1988, not far behind exports income of \$875 million, official figures show.

Figures for 1989 have not yet been issued, but operators say it was another good year despite the impact of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

This scared off most of the American religious tourists who used to visit Jordan briefly on tours of the holy land.

"We used to get 40 to 60 US groups in March and April, but this year we have only seven or eight," Bawab said.

Bawab and his colleagues say Jordan needs a more aggressive, professional and co-ordinated approach to fulfill its potential.

"We are on the threshold of a tremendous leap forward, but we are about to lose our advantage," said Munir Nassar, manager of International Traders, a travel agency.

"Jordan has become accepted as a tourist destination in Europe, Japan and the Gulf countries, but we need funds and organisation to sustain this," he added.

"The potential is incredible, especially for incentive and selective tourism," said Kajid Khalil, manager of the five-star Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. "But we need more infrastructure and we must reach the people who haven't heard about Jordan."

This year 10,000 Finns and 2,800 West Germans on package tours are expected to sample the winter sunshine of Aqaba, just across the bay from the better-known Israeli resort of Eilat.

They will pack hotels there from mid-February to the end of May. An acute shortage of hotel beds also afflicts Jordan's main tourist attraction, the rock-hewn Nabatean city of Petra.

"We could triple or quadruple the 60,000 package tourists we get now, but we need more beds in Petra," Bawab said.

A good road network gives easy access to most of the kingdom's rich archaeological sites, such as Jerash, Mount Nebo, Pella, Um Qais and a chain of Islamic desert castles.

But tourist hotels, rest houses and restaurants, where they exist at all, are rudimentary at many sites.

Tourism Minister Abdul-Karim Kabariti, whose family owns an Aqaba hotel, acknowledges the shortcomings and is trying to persuade the government and private sector to invest more.

"Tourism is the only hope for Jordan," he told Reuters.

"What we can offer tourists is unmatched but we need money to launch a marketing campaign abroad and the ministry has a promotion budget of only \$130,000," he said.

Kabariti is promoting a plan to create a private sector tourist agency funded by matching contributions from private investors; the government, the national airline Royal Jordanian and the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

JUNIOR TIMES

Happy birthday



Ammar Abdul Hussain turns 3 on February 3.



Harleen Kaur turned 8 on January 28



Shereen M. Chacko turns 9 on February 2.



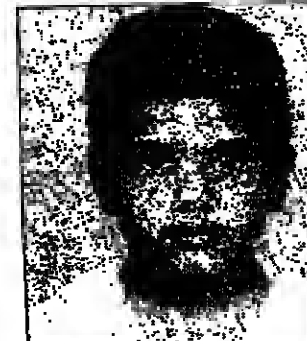
Christina Bennis turns 5 on February 4



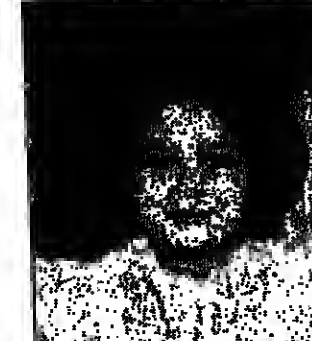
Hafsa Hamza turns 11 on February 2



Marioca Diaz turns one today February 1.



Fabin Anthony turns 6 on February 4



Judyte Borges turns 6 on February 3



Jasmeet Chadha turns 9 on February 3



Bradley Pinheiro turns 5 on February 5



Mariam Rahmani turns 8 on February 2



Vivienne Pinto turns 3 on February 3



Nassime Addi turns 7 on February 3



Pratik Bang turns 10 on February 5



Travis D'Cruz turns 5 on February 5



Deepak Gupta turns 3 on February 2



Jewel Rato turns 2 on February 3



Annette Cherian turned 9 on January 31.

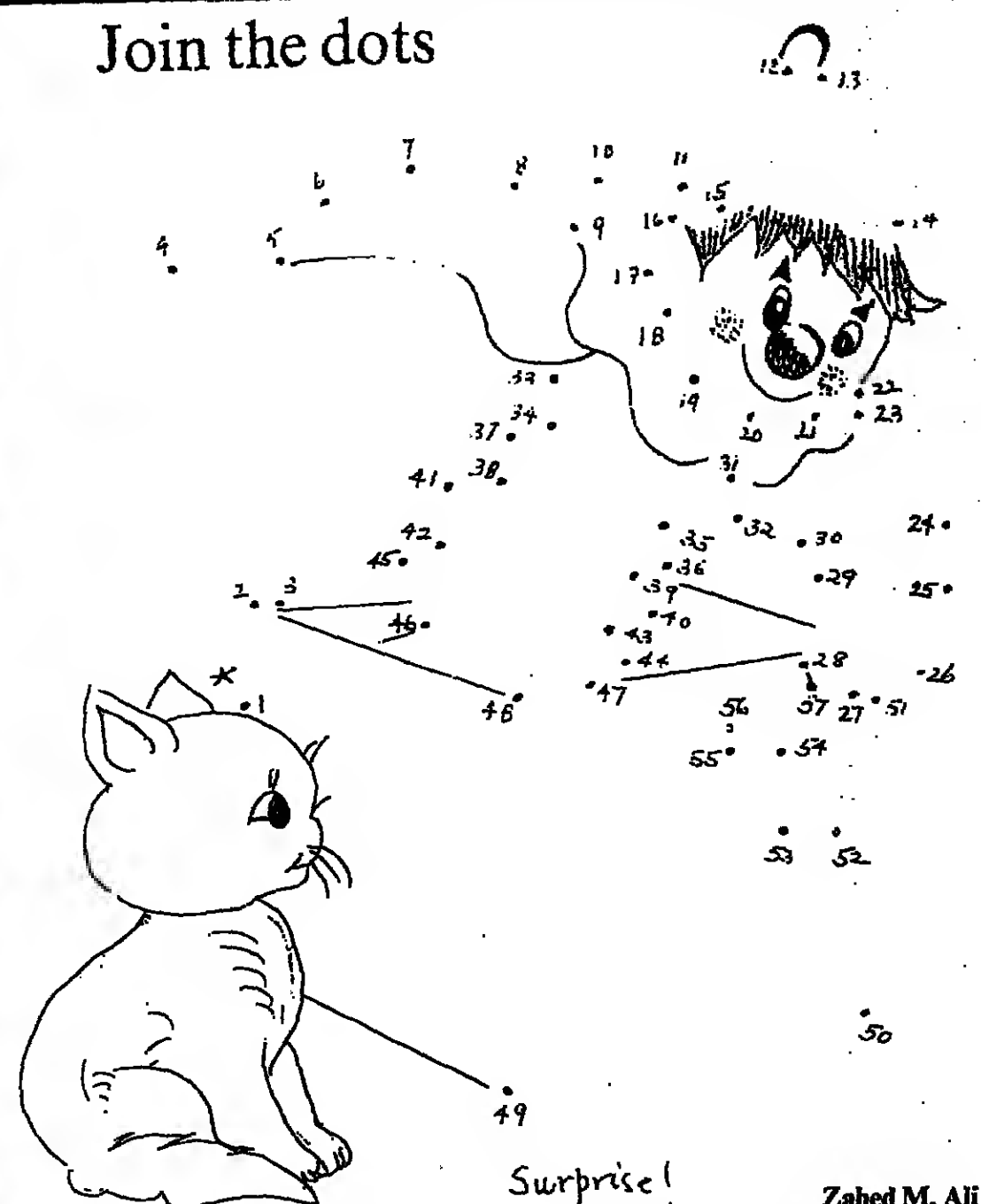


Velarlo D'Costa turns 5 on February 3.



Jenica George turned 6 on January 24.

Join the dots



Surprise!

Zahed M. Ali

Firsts and lasts

THE American filmstar Clark Gable was born on the first of February in 1907. He was not a popular man with the underwear industry, though he was with thousands of film-goers, because he appeared in a film in 1934 without a vest under his shirt. Before then nearly all men wore vests, and because of him they began to go without. The vest industry suffered a great deal.

The first international cricket match was played between Canada and the USA, hardly the leading cricketing countries today!

In 1637, the Royal Sovereign was launched, the first ship armed with 100 cannons.

Proverb: 'He who laughs last laughs longest.'

The first flight across the English Channel took place in 1785. The two men who did this were in the basket of a hot-air balloon and they landed safely in France — but without their clothes. The balloon had begun to get lower and lower a few metres from the French coast, so in a desperate attempt to reach it, the fliers tried to make the balloon lighter by throwing out all they had, which included their clothes.

Variety

Are you older than you think?

ARE you the kind of completely mature persons who clamps down on childishness in yourself and in others? Or can you still remember the sheer magic of being young — when everything was possible?

Can you still be playful? Joyful? Fun to know?

Or have you become the wet blanket that dampens everyone's enjoyment? This quiz will tell you the score.

1. Do you think practical jokes are:

a) brilliant?

b) boring?

c) babyish?

d) like all jokes — to be judged on merit?

2. Your best friend tells you your favourite outfit does not suit you. Do you say:

a) "Thank you for your honesty?"

b) "Thanks for telling me. I feel so good in it I will carry on wearing it!"

c) "You'd know, I suppose?"

d) "Sour grapes!"

3. A midnight swim is being mooted. What thoughts pass through your head?

a) "Is it safe enough?"

b) "Is it warm enough?"

c) "But I haven't brought my swimsuit!"

d) "What a great idea."

4. Would you say that, compared with ten years ago, the world is:

a) worse?

b) about the same?

c) a better place?

d) a much better place?

5. A group of friends are planning a camping holiday and invite you. Do you say:

a) "I'd love to!"

b) "I'd love to, but..."

c) "I'll think about it and let you know?"

d) "Not likely!"

6. Would you rather:

a) watch television?

b) play sport?

c) watch sport?

d) go disco dancing?

7. Do you believe in:

a) double beds?

b) water beds?

c) twin beds?

d) separate bedrooms?

8. Would you rather arrive at a party:

a) in a taxi?

b) in your own car?

c) on your motor bike?

d) in a horse-drawn carriage?



b) get a mutual friend to act as go-between?

c) forget it?

d) forget it — and them?

12. Are you:

a) a smoker?

b) a non-smoker or an ex-smoker who gave up at the first attempt?

c) a smoker with a history of failed attempts to give up?

d) an ex-smoker who took more than one attempt to give up?

13. Do you think the Beatles:

a) are still the greatest?

b) caught the spirit of their time but had no enduring qualities?

c) were quite talented?

d) were very talented?

14. For how many of these questions did you re-read the options before making your choice?

a) All.

b) Seven to 14.

c) One to six.

d) None.

How to Score:

	a	b	c	d
1.	0	1	3	2
2.	2	3	0	1
3.	3	1	2	0
4.	3	2	1	0
5.	0	1	2	3
6.	3	1	2	0
7.	0	1	2	3
8.	3	2	1	0
9.	0	1	2	3
10.	0	1	2	3
11.	2	3	1	0
12.	3	2	0	1
13.	0	3	1	2
14.	3	2	1	0

What your score means

0-15 Hello, Peter Pan.

You are still a big kid at heart, aren't you? It comes as a blow to realise that people out there see you as far less youthful than you feel inside. Just catching a glimpse of yourself in the mirror can be a shock.

It's your life. You are free to do your own childish and childish thing. But you can be a real source of irritation to others.

Be warned. Sometimes real grown-ups cannot stick you as a partner forever. They get tired of having to take the responsibility for everything serious on their own while you carry on with the jokes, the pranks and the assumption that someone else will do the worrying.

You have not forgotten how to be young. How could you? You have not yet learned there is any other way of seeing the world.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My father who is 86, is in the hospital with what the doctors call bacterial pneumonia. Could you please explain what this is?

ANSWER: Let's first define the term "pneumonia." Sometimes called pneumonitis, it is an acute infection of lung tissue. When it is confined to but one lobe of the lung it may be known as lobar pneumonia, and when it affects the bronchial tubes, it is called bronchopneumonia.

The term bacterial pneumonia tells us that the infection is caused by bacteria, rather than viruses, or fungi. "Bacterial" is the most common kind of pneumonia and can be caused by a wide variety of bacteria, including pneumococcus, streptococcus, staphylococcus, legionella, klebsiella, and hemophilus influenza. It is most serious condition.

About 2 million Americans get pneumonia each year, with 40,000 to 70,000 deaths reported. It ranks sixth among all causes of death as a cause of death. Despite many tests available to physicians, it is sometimes quite difficult to determine just what germ (bacteria) is causing the illness, and no culprit can be discovered in as many as half cases.

Pneumonia diagnosis

Pneumonia frequently follows an upper-respiratory infection and may start with shaking chills and a high fever. Patients find it difficult to breathe, sometimes experience pain when pleurisy develops, develop coughs and also may experience nausea and vomiting. Both chest X-rays and blood tests help make the diagnosis.

Hospitalisation is generally necessary to properly treat the condition, especially in older folks who lack the resistance and strength to fight off the infection. Fortunately there are a large number of powerful antibiotics that are effective in combating the infection, and are chosen for their particular ability to kill the germ that has been identified as the cause of the pneumonia.

Other measures used to treat patients and keep them comfortable are bed rest, fluids (including by the intravenous route), analgesics for pain, cough medications and oxygen for patients who may not be able to obtain enough for their systems because of the pneumonia. It may take a while to subside the infection and an even longer period for recovery, but a total cure is possible in most cases. Hopefully, your father will be one of them.

1990 Tribune media services, Inc.

Speeding up time travel for success

Back To The Future

By Shaun Seckins

AS THE saying goes, nothing succeeds like success, and in order to make sure of that, a somewhat elusive element, the producers of *Back To The Future* 2 have really speeded up the pace to time travel velocity.

The time travellers are still Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) and an even crazier scientist, Dr Emmett Brown (Christopher Lloyd). This time around they depart for the year 2015 in order to "sort out" Marty's kids who are playing up.

Marty's girlfriend Jennifer (Elizabeth Shue), the villain and former suitor for the affections of Marty's mother, Biff, are still around for some of the escapades.

The special effects are much more elaborate, but there is less evidence of the snappy one-liners and some of the subtlety of the first film seems to be lacking.

Although some of the ideas would find a ready market today, biscuits that swell up to the size of pizzas and clothes that self adjust when you eat too many of them, the billboards advertising Jaws 19 may be a bit hard to swallow.

Despite the fact that it doesn't have a forerunner to match up to, Eddie Murphy's *HARLEM NIGHTS* has a struggle to keep the humour coming. One would think that with stars like Murphy and Richard Pryor, Paramount should be laughing all the way to the bank, but Murphy's character of a cold-blooded killer is difficult to like, although apparently modelled on a nice-guy mobster.



Michael J. Fox

Pryor plays a good low-key straight-man and Herbie Hancock's music successfully evokes the period atmosphere. The film is littered with Murphy's favourite Oedipal find a ready market today, biscuits that swell up to the size of pizzas and clothes that self adjust when you eat too many of them, the billboards advertising Jaws 19 may be a bit hard to swallow.

David Hare's second film as writer-director *PARIS BY NIGHT* (the first was the award winning *WETHERBY*) starts out as a fast paced thriller but soon slows up. Charlotte Rampling plays a European politician's husband. She dashes around Europe at breakneck speed trying to keep ahead of a murky past that is threatening her crumbling marriage and flashy public life.

LITTLE MONSTERS script-writers must have had something like

BETLEJUICE meets *E.T.* in mind when the concept was developed. The casting of Fred Savage, Hollywood's only 12-year-old leading man, came next. Certainly the actual plot, about a world of ugly, spotted monsters who lived under beds (invisible to all except us) couldn't have taken long to write. As an exercise in bad taste this film really succeeds in embarrassing all age groups.

KILLING DAD isn't that much better, an alleged black comedy it boasts a cast of established actors that shouldn't be associated with this kind of rubbish. It tells the story of a young man's attempts to prevent his father from returning home 27 years after abandoning him and his mother.

Monty Berg (Denzel Elliott), an alcoholic ventriloquist is living with Judith (Julie Walters) in Southend. It is there that Ally, his son, goes to try to put his scheme into operation.

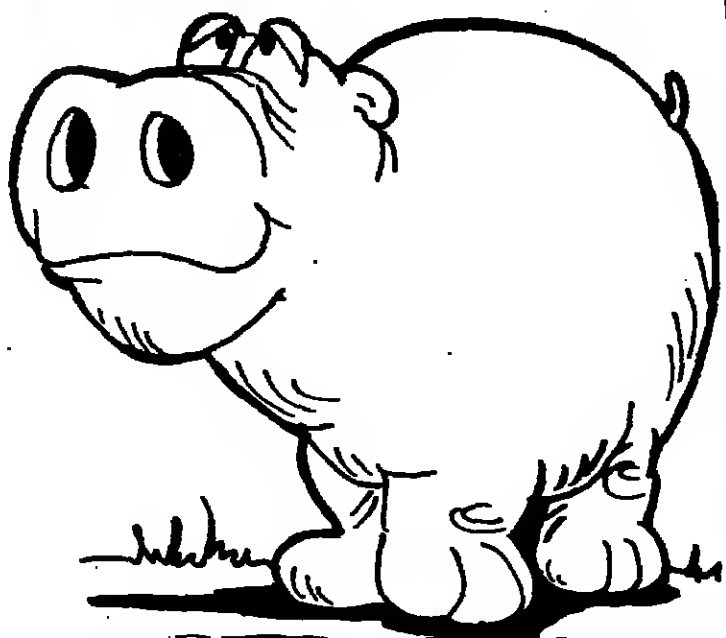
Ally changes his name and then succeeds in insinuating himself into Monty and Judith's life before making a series of attempts to do away with his old man. His whining mother then appears on the scene, further complicating the affair, as she is ready to forgive and forget.

Despite all the above criticism there are several other new releases that are worth watching. *MY BROTHER'S WIFE* starring John Ritter, *MURDER IN BLACK* and *WHITE*, and a new *POIROT* release.

Also by the time you read this *Superbowl 90* should be available. Above films by courtesy of the video Club, Sahmya, Tel 5724372.

كلنا من العرب

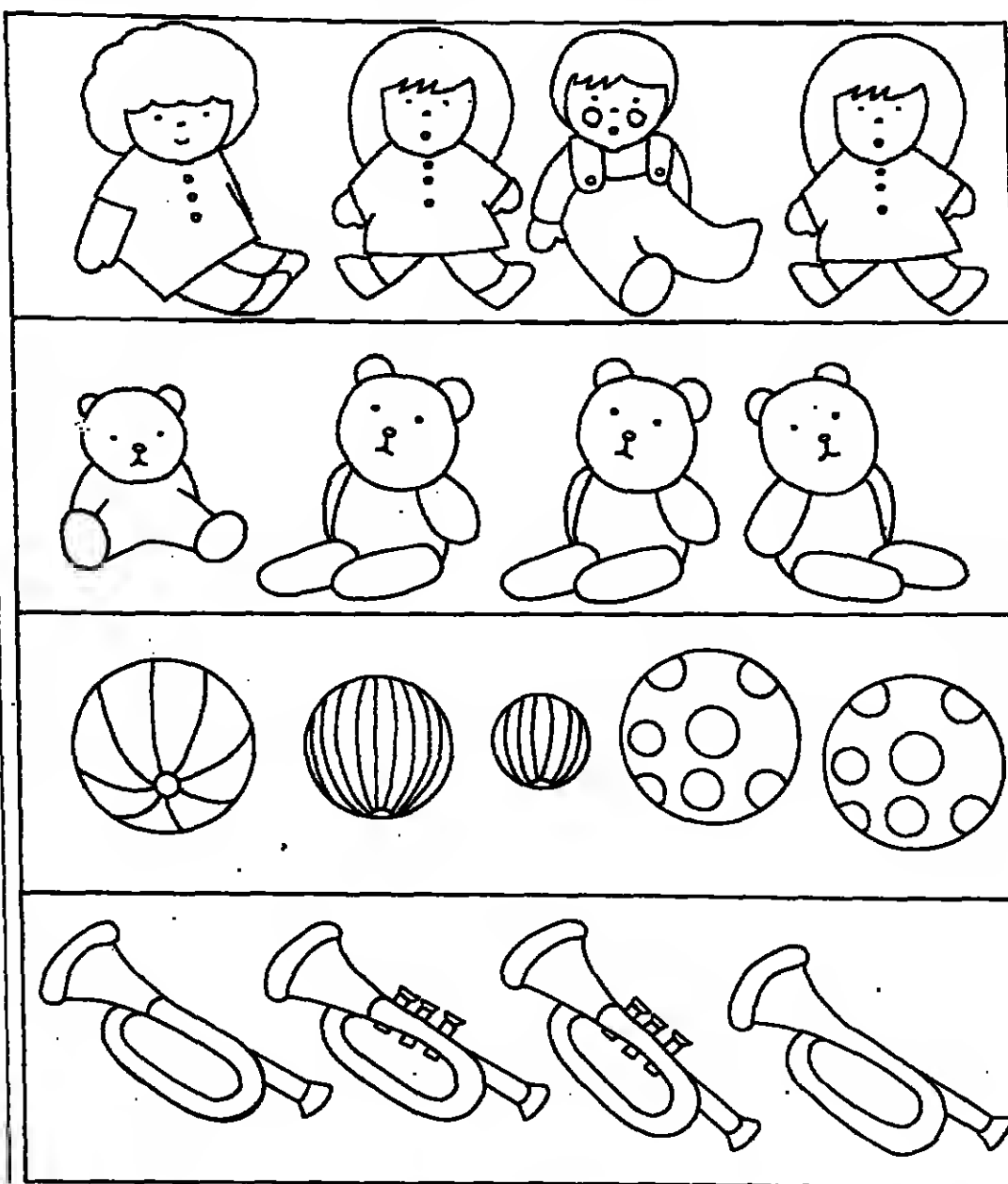
Heavy



1. Harry Hippo weighs 3,592 kg. He will go on a diet and lose 29 kg a week. How much will Harry weigh at the end of 4 weeks of dieting?
2. Eddie Elephant weighs 4,582 kg. His two best friends weigh 4,398 kg and 4,674 kg. What is the combined weight of all 3 elephants?
3. To give a gigantic birthday party for her husband, Mrs. Martinez bought 2 turkeys that weighed 23 lbs. each, 12 chickens that weighed 4 lbs. each and 23 hams that weighed 9 lbs. each. What was the combined weight of all the purchases?
 - a. The turkey was 79c a pound. How much did she pay for the turkey?
 - b. The chicken was \$1.19 a pound. How much did the chicken cost?
 - c. Ham cost \$1.69 a pound. How much was the ham?
 - d. Which cost the most?
 - e. Which cost the least?

Twins

Find the identical twins in each line and colour them.



Word search

HAVE SOME SAUSAGE

CAPOCOLA	LINK	A L L E D A T R O M K C D
CERVELAT	LIVERWURST	Y S S A B L O K E R A C R
CHORIZOS	LYONS	T S P J Y L N T O P W E A
COPPA	METTWRUST	L A C E I R T P O I T C G
COUNTRY	MORTADELLA	I L L N P W T C E R H H E
FRANKFURTER	PEPPERONI	V A K E U P O N U F G O A
GOOSE liver	PORK	E M V R V L E F U O Z R J
KNOBLAUCH	SALAMI	R I S C A R K R O O B I D
KOLBASSY	VIENNA	W T Z F W N E S O H C Z N
LANDJAEGAR	WIENERWURST	U J B U A D E C B N J O A
		R G R R A N N E I V I S L
		S S F V H C U A L B O N K
		T A P P O C F B S N O Y L

Play-shops

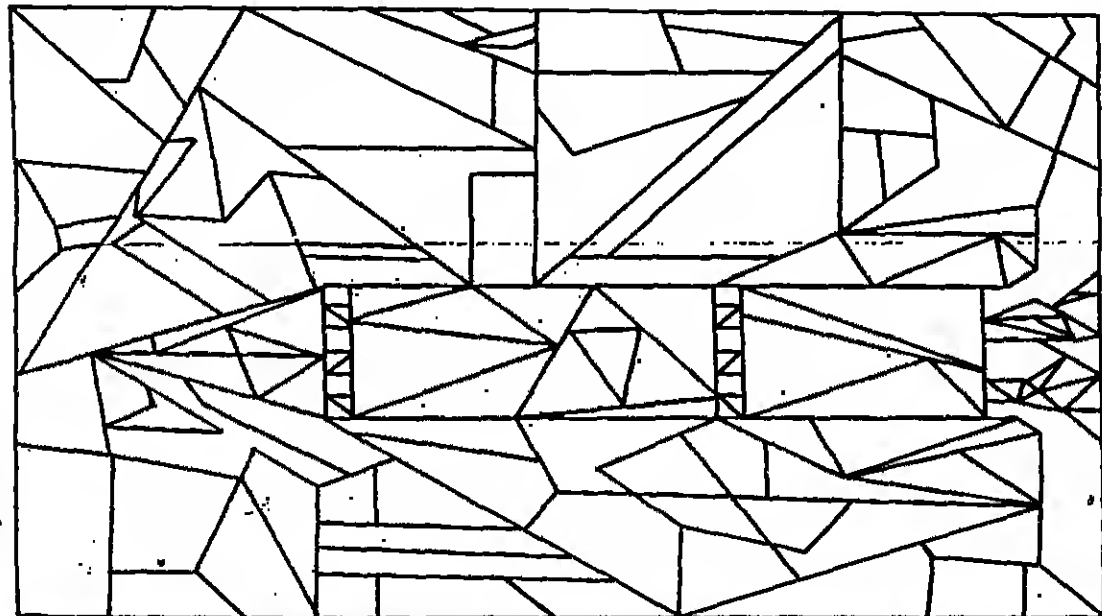
Ideas for shops using cardboard boxes and empty jam jars. Decorate the boxes with paints, crayons or felt tip pens.



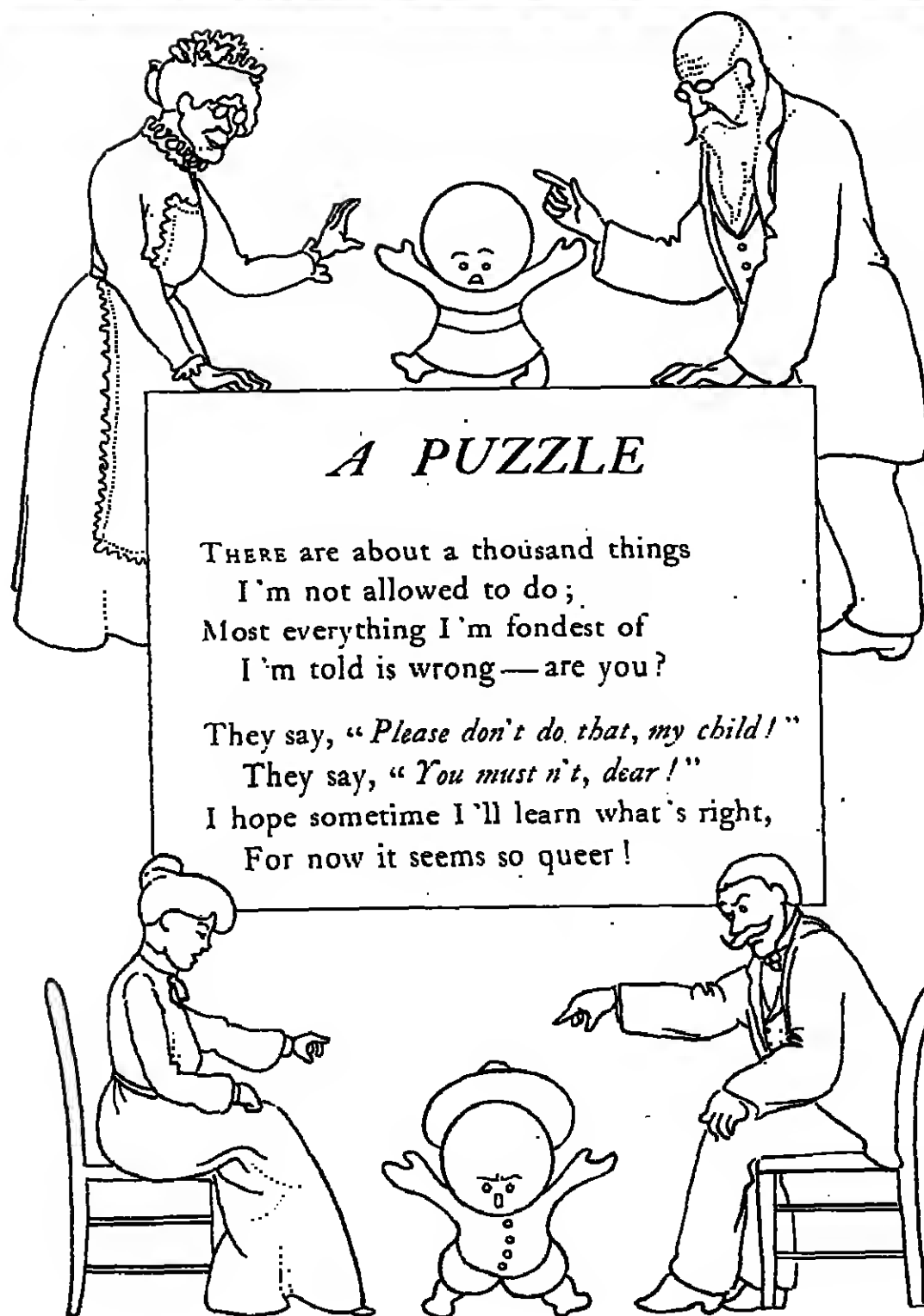
Make pretend money by flattening clean milk bottle tops.

Triangle travel

Colour all the triangles to find the hidden picture.



The Goops again



A PUZZLE

THERE are about a thousand things
I'm not allowed to do;
Most everything I'm fondest of
I'm told is wrong—are you?

They say, "Please don't do that, my child!"
They say, "You mustn't, dear!"
I hope sometime I'll learn what's right,
For now it seems so queer!

Dear Junior readers,
Books are a treasure many take for granted. Each book has been formed after a lot of hard work and research.
A book goes through many processes before reaching the shelves of local bookshops. Many people help in making a single copy: the author, scientists, researchers (if a scientific or social science text), typists, binders, editors, and publishers. It can take years to make one book, especially the hard books you use at school. Each book has to be good enough to support governmental academic standards.
Books are the main aid in literacy; don't you think it would be a shame to scribble and draw on them?
If you open a book which has been scribbled on, your first impression would be that it is dirty. Wouldn't you think that the person who did it was also dirty? Sometimes you need to highlight a point written in a paragraph, underline it lightly with a sharp pencil and a ruler. If you wish to summarise the paragraph write the summary on a small sheet of paper and clip onto the page with a paper clip.
Respect your books, this will enable you to refer to them for new details, or a refreshment of old knowledge with the years to come.

Manal

Amazing facts

Muhammad Ali is the only man to have twice regained the world heavyweight boxing title.

The human stomach can stretch to hold 2 pints of liquid.

Only the mother can be charged with infanticide. Any other parties may be charged with murder.

In 1972 a black and white cat fell 49 metres from a building in Toronto and survived.

After Sir Walter Raleigh was executed in 1618, his widow had his head embalmed and carried it in a red leather bag wherever she went until her own death twenty-nine years later.

A camera marketed in France in 1882 was shaped like a pistol.

In 1925-27 a Swiss schoolmaster rode horseback from Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Washington, D.C. — a distance of 10,000 miles.

The tip of a kiwi's beak is so sensitive it can detect worms deep in the ground.

The Earth's Mantle

The EARTH'S MANTLE is made of melted rock, or magma. When magma is under pressure below the Earth's crust, it has one kind of property. When the magma (lava) escapes through a volcano, and is no longer under pressure, it has a different property.

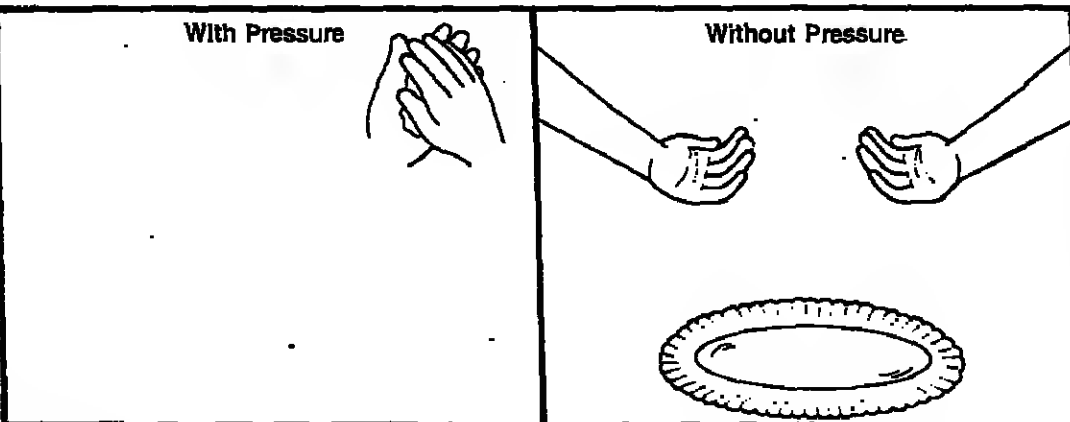
Hypothesis

Can you find out what magma is like under pressure and not under pressure using cornstarch and water to make pretend magma?

Materials Needed: cornstarch, water, two plates.

Procedure

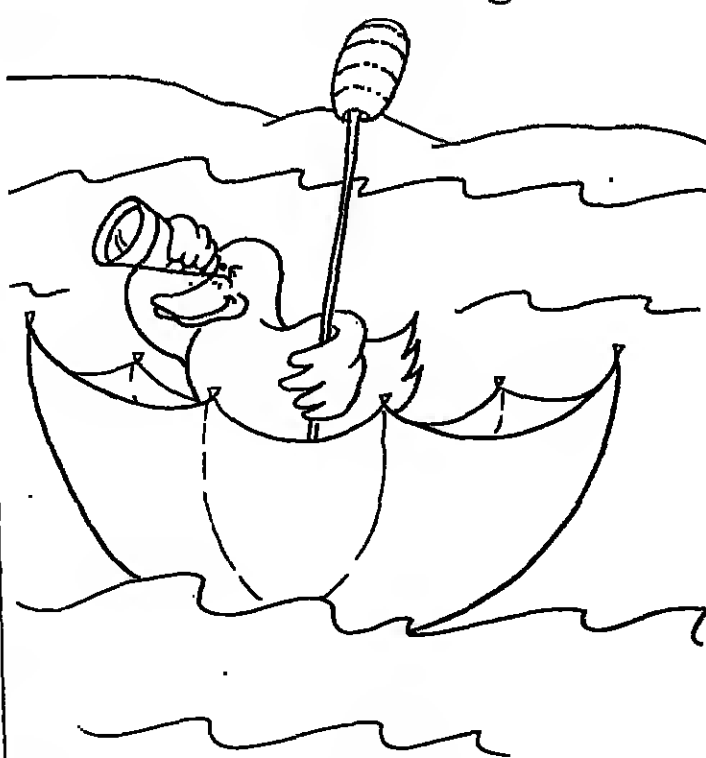
1. Mix cornstarch and water until it is like a thick syrup.
2. Pour "magma" into one of your hands. Push the cornstarch together between your hands. Roll it quickly like you were making a mudball. (This is like magma under pressure.)
3. Release the pressure and try to pass the cornstarch ball to your partner. Keep it over your plate! (This is like magma without pressure.)
4. Draw the "magma" here.



Results and Conclusions

1. Did you find out what magma was like?
2. What happened?
3. What did you learn?

Colour Timing



Birthday coupon

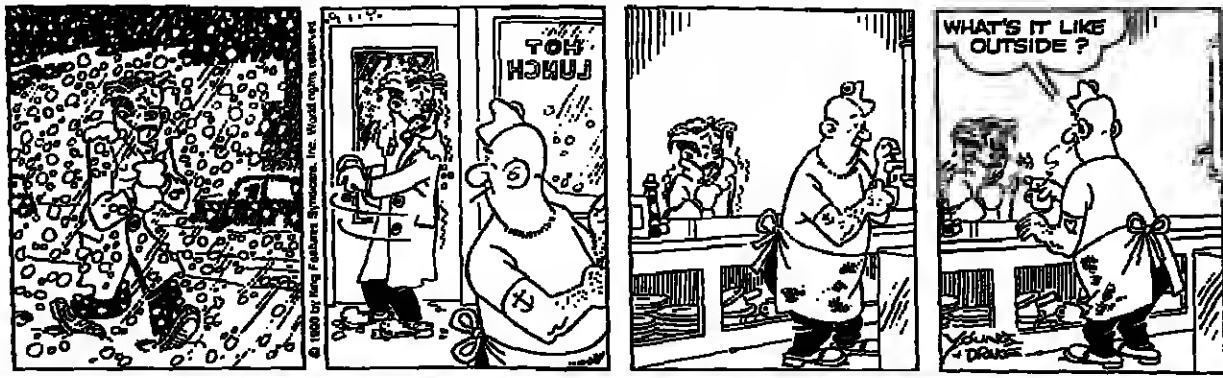
Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them. The details we need are:

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____
School: _____
Hobbies: _____
Telephone: _____
(confidential)

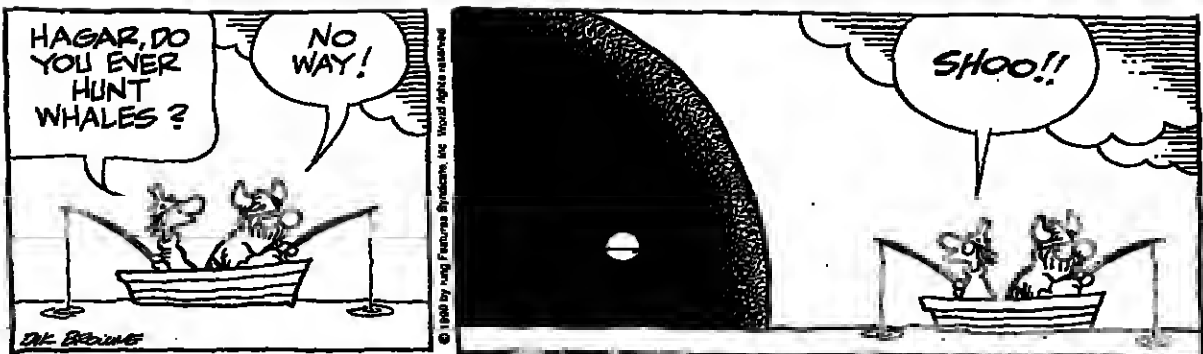
Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

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ARAB TIMES
Junior Times
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13023, Safat,
Kuwait
To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

BLONDIE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



AGATHA CRUM



BEETLEBAILEY



THE WIZARD OF ID



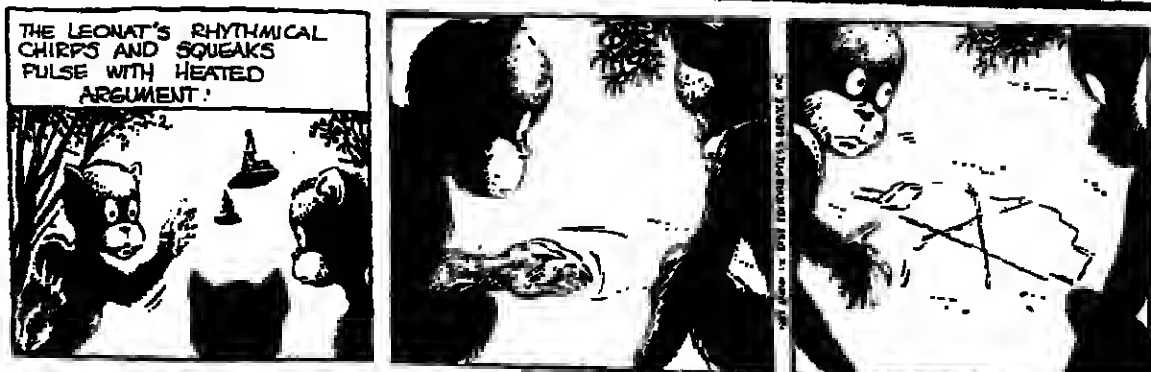
ANDY CAPP



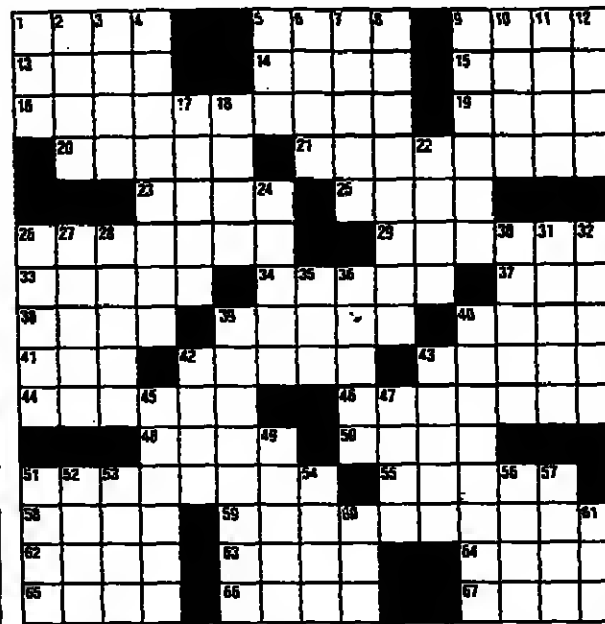
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Tardy

5 Consumer

9 London

13 Muffin

14 Ingredient

15 Wise one

16 Sets side by side

18 Indian title

20 Sister's daughter

21 Disaffect

23 Ephron of "Heartburn"

25 City on the Hudson

26 Nicaraguan rebels

29 "For Me To Say"

33 "To the poor swain — attorney came": Crabbe

34 Vanzetti's partner

37 Presidential nickname

38 Island off Sumatra

39 Diamond unit of weight

40 Clan member

41 Word with work or worth

42 "Gestalt" star

43 Carousal

44 Of a group of 20th cen. American realist painters

46 Maryl Streep, for one

48 Required course at sch.

50 Scram!

51 Alongside

55 Entertain

58 Entra —

59 Falling-out

62 Ye — Tea Shoppe

DOWN

1 Ahar JFK

2 "— for Your Money": 1949 Guinness film

3 Car for hire

4 International agreements

5 G's favorite org.

6 Ticket order anc.

7 Enit

8 Constrain

9 Diverges from the straight and narrow

10 Algerian city

11 Put up pictures

12 British painter John —

17 Kind of squash

18 Part of Istanbul, formerly

22 Newspaper's photo section, once

24 Test for gold

26 Antique red

27 Steinbeck characters

28 Below, to Whittier

30 Mother-of-pearl

31 Hauboy

32 Residing places for chateaux

35 "— you there?"

36 Ancient Ecuadorian Indians

39 Curdles

40 Grain

42 Judge's bench

43 Leaf opening

45 Desisted

47 Biggers' detective

49 Cove

51 Shortly

52 Elizabeth or Bob of Kansas

53 "A Candle for St. —": Golden novel

54 Fork feature

56 — Japanese War, 1937-45

57 Countless years

60 Summer time abbr.

61 Certain vote

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

MEICIA PHIL FERN
OTROIS IONA IVIAN
ACEUPIONESSLEEVE
THEN LIDIO ISLE
SEGO ALTY
QUEENANNESLACE
ULALA YETI LAP
ITS LHASA AGE
PRE SAIC HAILE
ALLTHEKINGSMEN
OER NEYS
LION MIFA DELE
JACKORALLTRADES
ALEE LULU AGENT
WORD ALEX TENSE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
PRETTY PLAY AT LOW LEVEL

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 10 8 7 4 3

♥ 7 5 4

♦ Q 2

♣ Q J

WEST

♠ J 2

♥ K 10 8 3

♦ 10 7 6

♣ K 8 5 4

EAST

♠ A K 5

♥ Q J 9

♦ K 5 4

♣ 7 6 3 2

SOUTH

♠ 9 6

♥ A 6 2

♦ A J 9 8 3

♣ A 10 9

The bidding:

East South West North

1 ♠ 10 Pass Pass

Pass

Opening bid: Jack of ♠

In most column hands, declarer plays in a game or slam. However, even lowly part-scores can produce fascinating struggles, as this hand from a rubber bridge game testifies.

While we do not quibble greatly with North's pass, we would have bid our six-card spade suit. But then we would have had nothing to write about.

West got the defense off to a splendid start by leading the jack of spades, covered by the queen and taken by the king. East shifted to the queen of hearts, which declarer ducked, and continued with the jack. Declarer won and, with no fast entry to dummy, chose to lead a trump to the queen and East's king.

If East now reverted to ace of spades and another, declarer would simply discard his losing heart while West ruffed. So that defender continued hearts. West won and returned a spade to his partner's ace. The time was ripe for a third round of spades, which guaranteed a second trump trick for the defending side, regardless of whether declarer ruffed high or low.

At the table declarer chose to ruff with the eight. West overruffed and carefully exited with his remaining trump. The defenders still had to come to a club trick for a one-trick set.

Note how prettily East-West timed their defense. The second trump trick takes its label from sporting events — a promotion. It is difficult to think of a better moniker.



"I wonder if there's intelligent life on other trees."

YOUR STARS



You will have good reason to be pleased with yourself. However that is no reason to relax your efforts, a lot remains to be done. You should pay a little more attention to your health. Do not leave any letters unanswered.



You are liable to omit some important details so make sure you pay extra attention. You should make sure you do not underestimate the capabilities of your rivals. There is no time to sit and stare. Be considerate.



The situation is rather complex and you should do all you can to simplify it. Do not neglect a small infection and do not eat anything stale. Do not resist change, instead welcome it. Be tactful.



The solution to a problem lies in quite a different direction from the one in which you are looking. You should avoid catering into commitments which you will find hard to meet. Give your partner a token of your love. Be sincere.



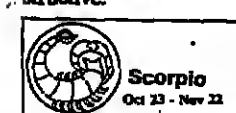
You should try not to say anything which you know you will come to regret. You are liable to run out of patience and should do all you can to restore it. Listen to what others are saying more closely. Be fair.



You should count the cost a little more carefully. You cannot afford to spend recklessly. Try to think more kindly of others and to show less resentment. Make sure you do not do anything that would obviously be bad for your health.



You will succeed in doing something you had long been planning to do. Before you set out on a journey make sure you know just where you are going and how to get there. Do not spurn good advice. Be constructive.



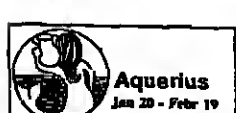
A tendency towards vagueness should be resisted. Your lucky numbers are 17 and 35. Make sure you do not let to music too loudly. Avoid negative reflections and do not dwell on the past. Be benevolent.



No good regretting something you should have done, just try to do better next time. You are all too liable to jump to conclusions and should try to refrain from so doing. Do not attempt to do too many things all at once. Be realistic.



You will have to be a little more patient, but your patience will be well rewarded. Try to save but not by delaying essential repairs or omitting regular maintenance. Be sensible.



Something that seemed to have led nowhere will now show good results. You should keep your head high even if there are some disappointments. Do not trust to luck or rely too much on others. Be moderate.



A tendency towards vagueness must be combatted. Do not wait for others to make the first move. Something you feared might not happen, but nor will you had hoped would. Think more of the future than of the past. Be resolute.



"One day you're gonna be really happy you bought that life insurance."



"The odd-numbered caves are on the other side of the gorge."

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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2406593

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Please do not hesitate to call 9010270.

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SALMIYA, Aminan Street. One room in a flat with tele. facilities for one Indian only, to share with two persons. Tele. Desai, 5625854, 2619530, 2 pm - 10 pm. Friday, whole day.

(AT6-51325-2)

INDEPENDENT room in a 2-bedroom central AC flat, fully furnished for a gentleman. Rent KD85 inclusive of water & electricity. Tele. 3725357.

(AT6-51346-3)

FARWANIYA, on the main road, accommodation in a spacious flat for an Indian couple or bachelor to share with another couple. Tele. Joseph, 4742716, 4735670, 8 am - 4.30 pm.

(AT5-51314-3)

KUWAIT City, Sherg, near the Desman Complex. Accommodation in a flat for 2 Indian bachelors with meals. Tele. 2409139, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-9 pm.

(AT4-51305-3)

Wanted
KUWAIT CITY, Jahra Road. Independent room required for a young bachelor to share with a family from 15th February or earlier. Tele. Saleem Kazi, 2434633, after 10.30 am.

(AT6-51337-3)

CITY, preferably Fahd Al Salem Street. Required for a single working lady. Tele. Mr Ayub, 2406283/4.

(AT6-51341-3)

For Rent

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Miscellaneous

THIS refers to our ad on flats for sale in Mirpur, Dhaka. For new details contact Tel: 4116302.

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ORGAN Yamaha D85, 3 keyboards, as new. Price KD550/-
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(AT4-51312-3)

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(AT5-51315-3)

SALMIYA near Indian/Pakistani School, furnished flat CAC, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large saloon with electrical and electronic items. New rent KD190 including water. Available from 1.3.90. Tele. 5651346.

(AT6-51333-3)

ATARI 520 STFM computer plus software, KD100. BBC language video for beginners/children. French and Spanish, KD10 each. Tele. David Taylor, 5330690, after 3.00 pm.

(AT6-51327-3)



Oh, No!
One is missing!!

I should have called Alghanim...

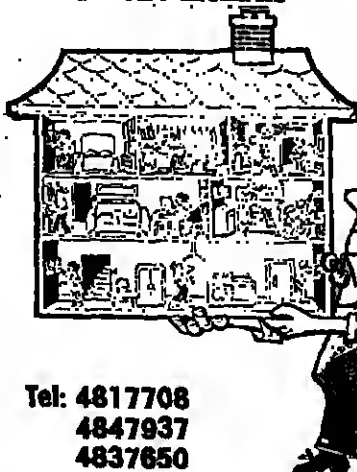
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- 2) New shop, for rent, KD 180/- 21 sq. mt.
- 3) New flats in Maidan Hawalli — 2 bedrooms, with sitting room, central A/C. KD 200/-

Contact Tel: 2423944

Furniture

BEDROOM set and sofa set for sale. Tele. 5387548, 10 am - 4 pm.

(AT6-51322-3)

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HONDA Civic EX, 1989 model, white, full options, KD3,440 due to Kuwait Finance House. KD80 per month by instalments. First due on 23rd February. Tele. Mohammad, 5740660/1 - mornings, 4787037/4739689 - evenings.

(AT6-51319-3)

DATSUN 120A, '81 model, AC, semi-auto in good condition. KD450. Tele. 2633521, 2 - 4 pm only.

(AT6-51332-1)

HYUNDAI Stellar, 1986 model, fully automatic, AC, light green, 56,000 kms, in excellent condition. For best offer, cash. Tele. 4312842 after 2.00 pm.

(AT5-51316-3)

NISSAN Liberta 83, insured up to Oct 90, fully automatic, sunroof, AC, light creamish brown, in good condition. Tele. 4746151.

(AT6-51326-2)

TOYOTA Cressida, 1983, AC, automatic, white, in excellent condition. Cash or instalments. Tele. Masood, 5639901, 8.30 am - 9 pm.

(AT5-51310-2)

MITSUBISHI Colt, 1987, manual, white, in excellent condition. Insured up to January 1991. Tele. 4741475, 2.00 pm onwards.

(AT5-51321-2)

TOYOTA Cressida, 84, fully automatic, sliding sunroof, white, in good condition, KD1400. Tele. Mr Saleem, 4313195, after 3 pm.

(AT4-51294-3)

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PERSIAN cats, very cute and friendly, house trained, seven weeks old, silver shaded and assorted colours, for sale. Tele. 5741154.

(AT6-51317-3)

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AVAILABLE at Salmiya, opp. the Sultan Center from 8 am to 1 pm, 2.30 - 6.30 pm. Tele. 5736497, Mrs Imad, 1 - 4 pm.

(AT5-51323-3)

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ALL subjects, L.K.G., U.K.G., upto Std. IV, given by an experienced teacher from Bombay, 5 days a week, at home in Salmiya, opp. The Sultan Center. Tele. Mrs Sethna, 5736497, 1 - 4 pm.

(AT5-51323-3)

ALL subjects, upto Std VII, given by an experienced lady. Tele. 5634070.

(AT4-51273-3)

Transport

REQUIRED from Fahaheel to Suwaikh at 7.30 am and back 5.00 pm. Tele. Ashraf, 4843565, 7.30 am - 5 pm, except Thursday & Friday.

(AT6-51328-2)

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REQUIRED

AN EXPERIENCED ARTIST

Capable of drawing sketch with brush on paper
Contact Tel. 2413096/2406910
between 4 and 8 pm only

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1. Secretary (male or female)
2. Counter clerk for cargo dept. (Sri Lankans only)
3. Drivers — only Sri Lankans.

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A secretary, must know English and Arabic typing, filing, telex and fax operating.
Must have transferable residence.
Please call 4839398

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Urgently required a salesgirl in Muthanna Complex, Shop No. 160. Pls contact Tel. No. 2424383, Lohlee

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(AT4-51301-3)

LOST

PASSPORT No. C77022 in the name of Shaikh Mohammed Saleem, Indian. Finder please Tele. 2458888 or inform the Indian embassy, 2530600.

(AT5-Mah-HU-3)

WALLET, on 30/1/90, evening, containing money & bank cards, identification, at Holiday Inn area. Reward offered to finder. Tele. Rolando Castillo, 2408274, any time.

(AT6-51347-3)

PASSPORT No. V 322063 in the name of J. Sebastian Pereira, Indian. Finder please Tele. 2461310, 2459024.

(AT6-51324-2)

SITUATIONS

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MAID required, Sri Lankan, for a small Indian family, to live-in. Hawaii. Tele. 2613922.

(AT4-LD's-TM-3)

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(AT3-51292-3)

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SPORTS

Kosa starts new race series

Shammal and Magic Flute win

THE Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association (Kosa) held its first two races of the new Spring Season this week. Race SS1 was comprehensively won by Shammal in a continuation of her Winter Series winning form. Magic Flute narrowly won the afternoon race SS2.

Conditions down on the dock prior to the morning race augured well for a competitive days racing. Fresh 15 knot north westerly breezes and moderate to choppy seas were the order of the day.

The Race Committee was satisfied with the five boat turnout though disappointed by the absence of Why Not, Lemons, Topaz and Danat. Gambit is due to return shortly after the completion of mechanical repairs.

Shammal got herself into an excellent position and crossed the start line beating towards the windward mark with high boat speed. Red Viking and Whispering were in close pursuit.

Red Viking and Whispering opted for a port tack and moved offshore. Magic Flute risked a grounding on the ebb tide and stayed inshore on a starboard tack while Shammal cleverly covered both options and took the middle ground.

Shammal performed well and rounded the windward mark about 30 seconds ahead of Red Viking. Magic Flute was a further 1 minute behind. In a good display Whispering rounded in close proximity to her bigger sisters.

The second leg was a reach to the wind mark and was sailed with spinnakers flying. Shammal continued her error free performance and increased her lead at the wind mark.



The Magic Flute crew pull in their spinnaker before rounding ODM.

The third leg was a fetch back to ODM (starline) to complete the first triangle. Shammal began to dominate and stretched her lead to 4 minutes. Red Viking was 3 minutes in front of Magic Flute.

The final five legs (sausage/triangle) saw no change to the established order. The consistent Shammal crossed the finish line after an elapsed time of 2 hours 46 minutes, 6 minutes ahead of Red Viking with Magic Flute a further 6 minutes behind in third place.

The afternoon course was shortened to a triangle/sausage. The start was a hotly contested affair.

Whispering crossed the line ahead and furthest upwind with Shammal threatening her transom; Red Viking attempted to luff up to a close hauled position but was curtailed by the windward Whispering causing the former boat to raise her protest flag.

Shammal and Whispering tacked offshore along with Good Kompany which had enjoyed an improved start. Magic Flute and Red Viking maintained their starboard inshore tacks in a closely fought duel.

As the fleet converged on the windward mark it was Magic Flute

that narrowly led the way from Shammal and Red Viking. However, when only metres from the mark it was necessary for Magic Flute to tack and lose ground. This allowed Shammal to sneak through on the inside and lead the way to the wind mark with spinnaker flying.

Red Viking mounted a challenge on Magic Flute during the reaching leg which resulted in a number of severe broaches while attempting to overtake to windward. Shammal dropped her spinnaker and gybed the wing mark just under a minute ahead. Red Viking

took an overlap and rounded as inside boat to lead Magic Flute down the third leg.

All boats rounded the ODM in the same positions; Shammal was unfortunate to run aground while on an inshore tack and lost valuable time before sailing on. Magic Flute took a good line on the windward mark and rounded tightly with Red Viking seconds behind. Shammal had recovered her position and were in contention for the run to the finish line.

Red Viking, gybed and hoisted her kite while Magic Flute flew her spinnaker on a port tack. As the run favoured a starboard tack Red Viking gained the supremacy to take line honours from Magic Flute by 46 seconds with Shammal a further 20 seconds behind.

Handicap corrected results of race SS1: 1 Shammal 2 Red Viking 3 Magic Flute

Handicap corrected results of race SS2: 1 Magic Flute 2 Red Viking 3 Shammal.

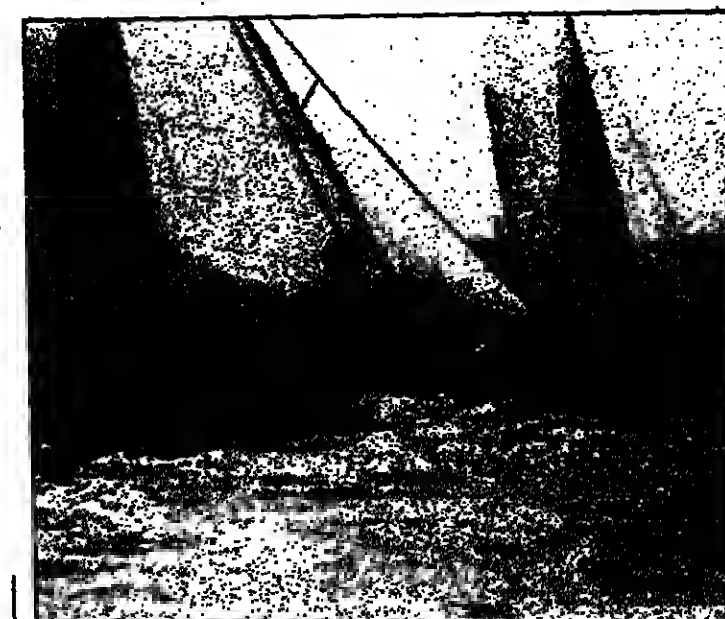
In an acknowledgement of Australia's National Day the yacht which had the best cumulative result from SS1 and SS2 was declared the winner of the Australia Day kangaroo. This honour went to Shammal who won with the best aggregate time.

Progressive scores, for all Declared Entries, after the first two races of the Spring Series are as follows: Shammal 3.75 Magic Flute 3.75 Red Viking 4 good Kompany 9 Whispering 15 Gambit 22 Topaz 22 Lemons 22 Danat 22 Why Not 22.

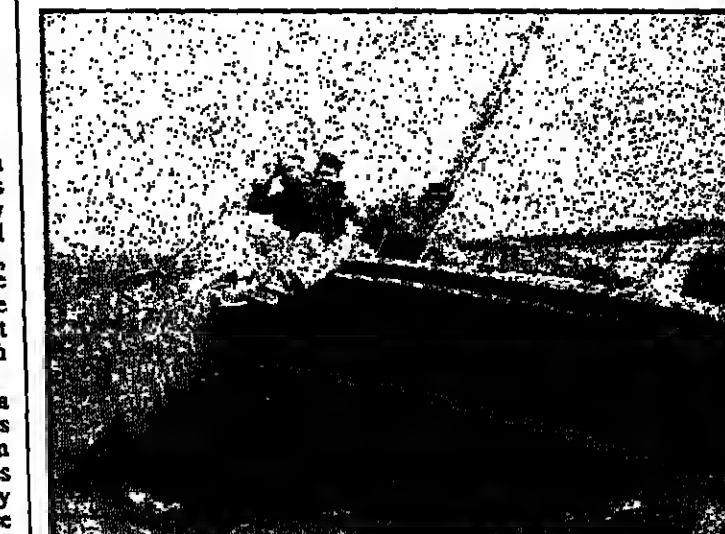
The next race in the Spring Series will be staged tomorrow and will be set as mid distance course. Briefing is at 9:30 am at the Shaab Marina.



Shammal: winner of the Australia Day Cup



Excitement at the start of SS2: Whispering, Red Viking and Shammal go for it.



Red Viking displays her shimmering new sails as she beats to windward.

SOCCER

Cambridge overcome Millwall

LONDON, Jan 31, (AP): An own goal by David Thompson 26 minutes into overtime gave Fourth Division Cambridge a 1-0 victory over First Division Millwall last night and a spot in the fifth round of the English FA Cup.

In another fourth-round replay on a rainy night, Sheffield United beat Watford 2-1 in a battle of second-division clubs. Cambridge and Millwall were just four minutes away from a second consecutive scoreless draw and a third replay in the Cup when Thompson kicked the winning goal into his own net.

The Millwall fullback sent a backpass for goalie Ken Branagan to handle. But the 23-year-old Branagan had committed himself and Thompson's pass rolled past his left hand.

Branagan made a desperate effort to retrieve the ball but he could not reach it before it trickled agonisingly over the goal line and into the far post.

Sheffield United's match at Watford was nearly rained out but referee Ken Redfern gave the go-ahead less than an hour before kickoff.

United then put on its own gale-like display at Vicarage Road, taking a 1-0 lead after just three minutes on a goal by Barry Deane.

Watford tied it 1-1 on a penalty kick by Gary Porter. But United got the winning goal 12 minutes into the second half when Paul Stancliffe headed in a cross.

Results

English Football Association (FA) cup fourth round replays: Cambridge United 1, Millwall 0 - after extra time (Cambridge away to Bristol City in fifth round); Watford 1, Sheffield United 2 (Sheffield United at home to Barnsley).

English Division Three: Bristol City 1, Chester 0; Shrewsbury v Cardiff postponed; Swansea v Leyton Orient postponed. Scottish Division One: Airdrieonians 2, Clydebank 2.

Mirandinha to rejoin former club

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan 31, (Reuters): Brazilian striker Mirandinha has agreed terms to rejoin his former club, Sao Paulo's Palmeiras, from English Second Division Newcastle.

Marcio Papa, a Palmeiras director, told Reuters yesterday that Mirandinha had agreed for a 20-month contract with the club, who signed him on a year's loan from Newcastle last August.

Papa, who will be travelling to England to discuss the transfer fee, said Newcastle had now agreed to sell Mirandinha. He did not reveal how much Palmeiras were prepared to pay for the player.

The striker left Palmeiras for Newcastle in 1987, when the English side were in the First Division, in a £1 million (\$1.6 million) deal.

Since returning to Brazilian football, Mirandinha has settled down well and earned himself a regular first team place despite being sidelined for nearly two months through a face injury.

On Sunday, Mirandinha scored Palmeiras' winning goal against Ferroviaria in their opening match in this year's Sao Paulo Championship.

Austria rely on collective spirit

No superstars in Cup squad

VIENNA, Jan 31, (Reuters): Enigmatic Austria will be pinning their hopes on collective spirit, disciplined teamwork and the finishing power of Toni Polster when they arrive in Italy for the World Cup finals in June.

Coach Josef Hickersberger, the youngest national team chief in Austria's history, admits his unpredictable squad lack outstanding individuals but knows they can perform brilliantly on their day.

"The team has a wonderful face — the one it showed against East Germany — and a very ugly one, as it showed against Iceland," he said, referring to the 3-0 victory which clinched Austria's place in the finals and the 0-0 draw in Iceland.

"We don't have superstars like Italy, West Germany or the Netherlands. Because we are short of world-class players, we have to take a collective approach."

In the 19 international fixtures since he took over from Branko Elsner in December 1987, Hickersberger has used 40 players in the national team. "Too many," he commented, "but I had to

experiment." Hickersberger said of his players: "They are young and able to learn and they will develop. Players like Pfeiffer, Pecl, Russ, Herzog, Artner and others started from nothing and began getting experience only during the World Cup qualifiers. The team will grow in strength in Italy."

Austria are back in the World Cup finals for the first time since 1982 and the sixth time in all, but will be considered a team without true pedigree at the highest level.

Polster is their greatest hope of success, a dazzling but inconsistent striker who scored all three goals against East Germany and is the leading goalscorer for his Spanish club Sevilla.

Polster came close to winning the "Golden Boot" as Europe's top scorer with 39 goals in 1987 when he was edged out by Romanian Rodian Camataru with 44, a record which the country's new rulers admit was achieved through manipulation.

"Polster is an exceptional striker," said Jozef Venglos, coach of Czechoslovakia, who have been drawn to meet Austria, Italy and the United States in Group A in the opening round.

"Finding the man to mark him is already costing me sleepless nights."

One unresolved problem facing Hickersberger is that of his headstrong but talented captain, Herbert Weber, who was dropped from the squad for the East German game after he refused to appear as a substitute.

"Weber is 34 and I will have to replace him in the not too distant future. Whether that happens before the World Cup depends on how the other candidates play and on his own form in the spring," Hickersberger said.

Despite their recent poor record against Czechoslovakia, many commentators believe Austria, with or without Weber, will finish ahead of them in second place behind Italy in their opening group.

Czechoslovakia won their last two international meetings, this year and last, 2-1 and 4-2, and the last Austrian win between the two was in 1982. But, in a match which could make or break each nation's hopes, the Austrians are

favoured to come out on top. Hickersberger, who plans a five-match build-up to the finals with trips to Egypt on February 28 and Spain on March 28 and visits from Hungary on April 11, Argentina on May 3 and the Netherlands on May 30, will take his squad to their tournament headquarters near Florence on June 4.

There, at the ornate villa Medicea in the Tuscan Hills some 20 kilometers from Florence, part of which operates as a museum, he hopes he may enjoy the wisdom and experience of the great Austrian coach Ernst Happel as one of his advisers.

Hickersberger is still hoping to tempt Happel to join him, but so far Happel, 64, who led the Netherlands to the 1978 World Cup final and Feyenoord Rotterdam and Hamburg to European club honours, has said he would be in Italy this summer, but only on holiday.

Happel believes the Austrians can reach the second round but advises: "Take the initiative, don't wait for the others to act. If you want to rely on luck alone, you'd better going to a casino."

Romania to let players move abroad

PISA, Italy, Jan 31, (Reuters): Romania will allow soccer players to move to foreign clubs but is planning age restrictions and other limits to prevent a mass exodus, the country's new deputy sports minister said today.

Cornel Dinu, a former soccer star himself, said rules on foreign transfers would be discussed when officials meet on February 8 to reconstitute the country's soccer federation.

"We shall open the frontiers, there's no doubt about that," Dinu told reporters in the Italian city of Pisa. "But the opening won't be indiscriminate because not everyone can go."

He said rules could include age limits and regulations on ties between foreign-based players and the national team.

Dinu is accompanying the Romanian team on a round of pre-World Cup friendly matches, the squad's first foreign tour since the December revolution that ousted communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

He said the sale of players abroad would boost the image of Romanian soccer, battered by match-rigging and corruption under communist control, earn money for the game in Romania and broaden the experience of players.

Several European clubs have already approached Steaua Bucharest star midfielder Gheorghe Hagi but national coach Emerich Jeni said no Romanian players were likely to move abroad before the World Cup finals in Italy in June.

Romania are scheduled to play Second Division Pisa tomorrow.

Bordeaux stun Yugoslavia

BORDEAUX, France, Jan 31, (Reuters): French League leaders Bordeaux upset World Cup finalists Yugoslavia 2-1 in a friendly soccer match yesterday with goals from West German Klaus Allofs and Dutchman Piet den Boer.

In their practice match ahead of June's World Cup finals, Yugoslavia showed flashes of style to suggest they could be a dark horse in the finals in Italy.

Ironically the two Bordeaux goals came from the only players in the side with a chance of playing the finals — France failed to qualify — while Yugoslavia's effort came from French-based defender Faruk Hadzibegic.

Allofs shot Bordeaux ahead in the last minute of the first half after a brilliant through ball from defender Jean-Christophe Thouvenel.

Sochani's Hadzibegic equalised three minutes after the interval before Den Boer clinched Bordeaux's win 10 minutes from time after another fine pass from Thouvenel.



Pajot (extreme left) with the IACC yacht

France launch first IACC prototype

VANNES, France, Jan 31, (Reuters): French skipper Marc Pajot yesterday unveiled the first prototype of a new class of yacht which will compete for the America's Cup in 1992.

The 22.5-metre boat, named F1, is the first of the International America's Cup Class (IACC) yachts which challengers have agreed to use in the next Cup campaign.

IACC yachts, designed by an international board of architects, are longer and lighter than the traditional 12-metre boats they will replace and require less crew.

"It's a real prototype from which we will build the boat for the French challenge in the America's Cup," said Pajot, a semifinalist in the 1987 competition.

Sixteen nations have applied to race in the 1992 campaign, even though the outcome of the 1987 event is still being contested in American courts by the San Diego Yacht Club and New Zealand's Mercury Bay Club.

Mercury Bay said last month that it would build its own IACC yacht by October this year.

Meeuws names eight players for Cup Belgium ready to enjoy old role

BRUSSELS, Jan 31, (Reuters): Belgium, unexpected semifinalists in Mexico four years ago, have happily slipped back into their old role as outsiders for the World Cup finals in Italy.

In 1986 the modest Belgians defied the odds when they sneaked through the first round and on to a last four clash with eventual winners Argentina.

Their success earned them unprecedented prestige in international soccer and a seeding for this year's finals.

But a recent string of disappointing results has undermined the image and given Belgium a chance to take on the mantle they prefer — that of underdogs.

Their last two qualifying matches, against Switzerland and Luxembourg, were anaemic draws. Then they crashed 2-0 to Greece in a friendly earlier this month.

But coach Walter Meeuws said he had just the remedy to prevent any embarrassing repeat performances.

The key, he said, lay in a return to greater emphasis on defensive skills, coupled with lightning counter-attacks.

"We'll have to start playing in the typically Belgian way again," he said. "We've got a talented group of players, but we're at our best when we play in a very disciplined, well-organised manner and are quick on the break."

The backbone of his team will be a four-man defence, or perhaps even five, thus marking a return to the system that was Belgium's trademark in Mexico.

Meeuws has four friendly matches left, against Sweden, Romania, Mexico and Poland, to fine tune his team before the World Cup.

"A coach is always short of time, especially the national coach," said Meeuws, who in a unique show of confidence and to avoid uncertainty and worry for the players, has already named eight of the men he intends to take to Italy.

They are goalkeeper Michael Preud'homme, defenders Georges Grun, Leo Cluij-



Meeuws: lays greater emphasis on defensive skills (Reuters wirephoto)

sters, Stephane Demol and Eric Gerets, midfielders Marc Degryse and Franky van der Elst and striker Jan Ceulemans.

"They will make a strong team. It is a mixture of experience, routine, maturity with Ceulemans and Gerets, and young talent such as Degryse," said Meeuws.

"Ceulemans has an incredible reputation abroad. He's very strong and smart and has enough experience to show up in front of the goal at the right time."

"Gerets has enormous will-power. Although he's already 35 he still loves the game," Meeuws said. "Degryse adds sparkle to the team. He's technically superior, a fantastic player."

Degryse has taken over in midfield from 1986 World Cup star Enzo Scifo, who has recently fallen from grace.

"Scifo is a great player but Degryse fits

better into the team," Meeuws said.

Meeuws left Scifo out of his squad for the match against Greece earlier this month to punish him for boycotting a training session and criticising the coach's decisions.

Meeuws had announced he would put Scifo on the substitutes' bench after the player called a press conference to say he should play the whole match.

He anticipates few problems with foreign-based Belgian players during the preparation period. Only Stephane Demol could miss part of the World Cup build-up programme if his club Porto qualify for the Portuguese Cup final.

Belgium will prepare for the finals in Brussels and fly to Verona on June 9, three days before their first match against South Korea.

"Don't forget we still have four teams involved in European competitions. It means that the months of March and April will be very trying for many players. They can do without any extra travelling," Meeuws said, "and it will allow the players to see their wives more often."

The four-week preparation programme begins after the Belgian League ends on May 12, although some players may be involved in the domestic cup final one week later. It will end with a match against Poland on June 6.

Players and team officials will be based in Pescantina, 12 kilometres outside Verona and close to the Garda Lake.

"Verona is a great place to be. We had hoped for Milan or Turin. Verona is even better," Meeuws said. "The climate is ideal. It's never too hot and it's not too far for Belgian fans to make the trip by car."

Asked whether Belgium would be able to repeat their performance of 1986, Meeuws said: "We should reach the second round, but it'll be difficult."

He said the opening match against South Korea would be crucial. "South Korea are a mystery to us. Spain and Uruguay both play a bit like we do. They also rely on a solid defence."

Drug abuse continues

Martin scores easy victory



Martin crosses the finish line to win the marathon. Below: Britain's Prince Edward places a wreath on Martin. (Reuter wirephoto)



AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 31, (AP): Australian Lisa Martin made marathon history today, but action on the eighth day of the Commonwealth Games was again overshadowed by revelations of drug taking by weightlifting competitors.

Martin's victory by 7 minutes 47 seconds over second-placed Canadian-born team-mate Tani Ruckle was the biggest winning margin in women's international marathon history.

Martin destroyed the field of 15 runners, leading for every step of the 26 miles, 385 yards (42.175km).

Her winning time of 2 hours, 25 minutes, 28 seconds broke the Commonwealth Games best of 2:26.07 set when she won the title in Edinburgh in 1986 and was the second fastest time of her career.

Ruckle, 26, who only started serious running four years ago, was second in 2:33.15 and England's Angie Pain clocked 2:36.35 for third.

For the third straight day, however, competitors who lost medals were more newsworthy than most who won them.

Organisers announced that a third athlete in as many days had failed a dope test, and said they would name him tomorrow after a second urine sample had been tested.

They also identified the two previous offenders as weightlifters Subrata Kumar Paul of India and Ricky Chaplin of Wales.

David Dixon, secretary of the Commonwealth Games Federation, said that Chaplin, who won a gold medal in the 75kg class, and Paul, who won two silvers and a bronze in the 67.5kg category, both would have their medals rescinded and had been thrown out of the Games.

Dixon said Paul's tests had shown traces of the banned anabolic steroid, nortestosterone. Chaplin was found guilty on a technicality for having higher than normal testosterone levels, a naturally-occurring level, but the hormone.

competitions and the award of medals will be adjusted to take account of the elimination of the two competitors," Dixon said.

He said the International Weightlifting Federation was being informed of the two cases "so that the appropriate action may be considered by that body."

Welsb team manager Myrddin John said he was "saddened and distressed" by the news.

"It is regrettable and very sad. It is unfortunate that we have a few individuals who bring distress, not only to themselves and their family, but also to their team," he said.

John had the task of taking back Chaplin's medal and admitted: "It is not a pleasant job."

Dr Tamas Ajan, general secretary of the IWF, said he was shocked to hear of the positive tests.

"We cannot accept this situation," Ajan said.

Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation president Paul Coffa of Australia called for testing of all competitors at the Games.

"I find it inconceivable that not all medal winners were tested for drugs," Coffa said. "Drastic times demand drastic action."

British officials hit out at Chaplin.

"He has been bloody stupid and as far as we are concerned he will be banned for life," said Hymie Binder, chairman of the

British Amateur Weightlifters' Association.

Millie Khan played the most important match of her life today unaware that her 10-week-old grandson had died hours earlier at the gates of the Commonwealth Games bowling greens.

The child's death was kept from Khan, New Zealand's star bowler, at the request of her family.

The baby, in a pram at the gates of the Pakuranga greens, died despite mouth-to-mouth resuscitation by a policeman.

A police spokesman said Khan's family had been left to decide whether she should be told before her gold medal singles final, the focus of attention for all New Zealand.

Police asked media covering the Games to agree to a voluntary news blackout to prevent Khan, 51, learning of the tragedy until after the final against Gervase Phillips of Papua New Guinea.

All complied except the Auckland Star newspaper which ran the story on its front page.

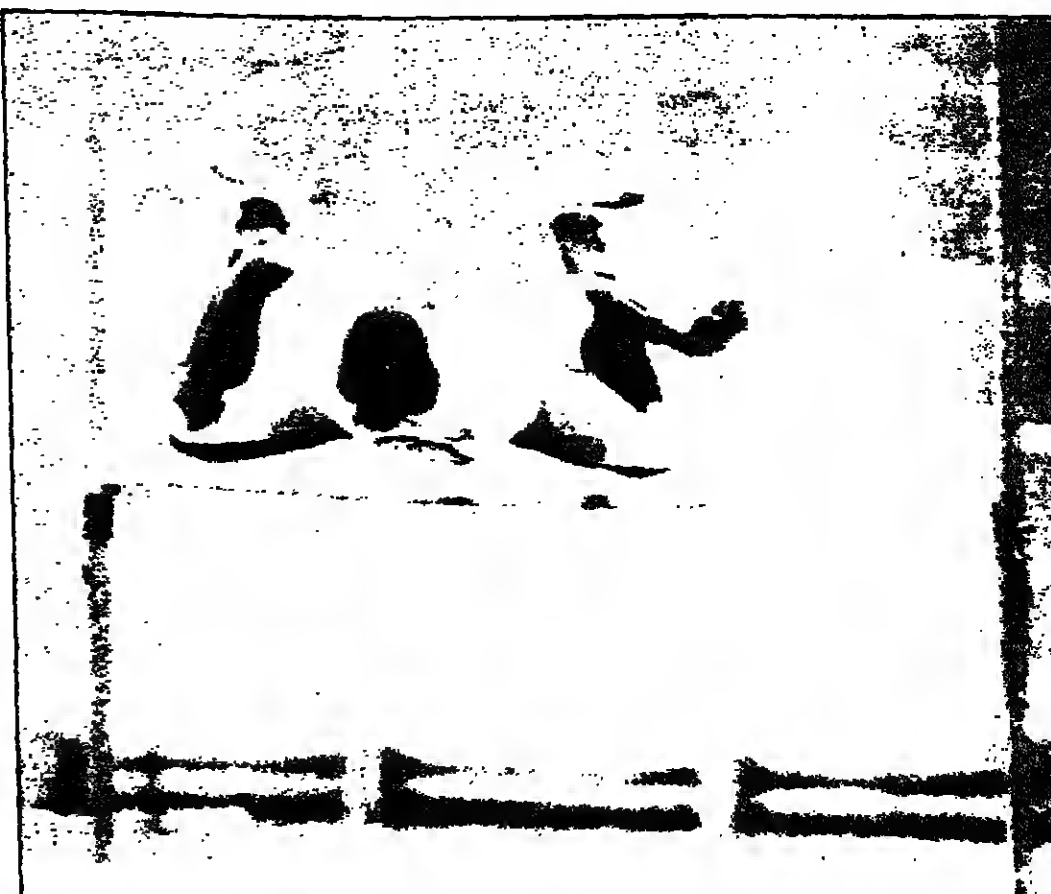
Police said Khan was being informed of the baby's death by her family immediately after the match and would then decide whether to attend the medals ceremony.

Khan, has seven children and 12 surviving grandchildren.

Tau won the final 25-18, Papua New Guinea's first gold in Commonwealth Games history.



Ricky Chaplin (left) receiving the gold medal on Jan 27. (Reuter wirephoto)



England's 100m gold medalist Linford Christie shows his style at clearing the high jump while taking a break from his own training session for the Games' 200m race. (Reuter wirephoto)

Many stars opt out of Pro Bowl

HONOLULU, Jan 31, (AP): Many top football players won't be appearing in Sunday's Pro Bowl, a post-season game that's supposed to feature stars from National Football League teams.

Joe Montana, John Elway, Boomer Esiason, Don Majkowski, John Taylor and Karl Mecklenburg are all out, and so is some of the luster from the upcoming game.

The anticipated rematch of Super Bowl quarterbacks Montana, of the San Francisco 49ers, and Elway, of the Denver Broncos, won't happen, since both have withdrawn with elbow problems. Denver lost the Super Bowl — football's equivalent of soccer's World Cup — last Sunday.

Cincinnati quarterback Esiason and Green Bay's Don Majkowski already had pulled out, and Elway was supposed to replace Esiason.

Of the four quarterbacks voted into the Pro Bowl by their fellow players around the League, only Warren Moon of Houston will play Sunday at Aloha Stadium.

Philadelphia's Randall Cunningham has replaced Majkowski, who listed personal reasons for not showing up. Dave Krieg of Seattle will fill the spot left vacant first by Esiason, who listed rib and toe injuries, then by Elway.

"The quarterbacks were hit hard this year," said Pro Bowl co-ordinator Roger Goodell of the NFL.

"I know Elway really wanted to play, but I understand that his elbow really swelled up the day after the Super Bowl."

"I know Montana's elbow is an on-going problem; I think they were still talking about the possibility of off-season surgery," Goodell said. "He's a tough guy and I'm sure he would like to be here if he could."

Mecklenburg, an inside linebacker for Denver, injured his left knee in the Broncos' 55-10 loss to San Francisco in the Super Bowl and was scheduled for arthroscopic surgery.

Taylor, a wide receiver for the 49ers, pulled out of the pro bowl with a sprained ankle.

Johnny Remy of New England will fill in for Mecklenburg, and Mark Carrier of Tampa Bay will replace Taylor.

Unlike baseball, basketball and hockey, where players rarely are absent from the professional all-star games, the Pro Bowl often seems to be missing some of the sport's best players.

Part of that is due to the fact that more players suffer injuries in football than in other sports. The Pro Bowl also differs from other all-star games in that it is played a month after the regular season and a week after the final championship game, making the all-star game seem sort of a footnote.

Strawberry arrested

LOS ANGELES, Jan 31, (AP): Darryl Strawberry, the talented but troubled New York Mets outfielder, was briefly jailed when arrested last week for alleged assault with a deadly weapon after threatening his wife with a pistol, police said.

Strawberry was arrested early Friday at his home in the exclusive Los Angeles suburb of Encino and spent a "very short time" in jail at the West Valley Station. Sgt. Woody Baca said Monday.

Los Angeles police commander William Booth said Strawberry posted \$12,000 bail "and is back with his wife."

"It's no big deal, no big problem," Lisa Strawberry said. "There's nothing that couldn't be fixed."

Davis' ashes scattered at private ceremony

AUCKLAND, Jan 31, (Reuter): Friends of former Olympic swimming champion Victor Davis flew his ashes from Canada to the Commonwealth Games to scatter on the waters of the Pacific in a private dawn ceremony today.

Team-mates sprinkled water from the Los Angeles Olympic pool, where Davis won a gold medal, over the waves in tribute to the Canadian swimmer who died last November, two days after being hit by a car.

"It was the wish of his family to return his ashes to the waters off here where he won his first international success," said Davis' friend David Stubbs who chartered a motor launch for the service.

Stubbs, a Montreal journalist and former Canadian team official, carried the ashes in a plastic box to New Zealand, where Davis, twice world breaststroke champion, won his first major race in 1981.

Davis' aunt Anne McMurray flew to Auckland from her home in Perth, Australia to attend the ceremony.

Stubbs, who gave the eulogy at the 25-year-old Davis' funeral, said a local Maori tribe had given their blessing for the service. A Catholic priest was among the nine people on the boat.

Swimmer Tom Ponting and diver Dave Bedard, both national team members with Davis, threw the bouquets awarded to them as medal winners from the boat after McMurray had scattered Davis' ashes.

England's Adrian Moorhouse, beaten by Davis in the 100 metres breaststroke final at the 1986 Commonwealth Games, and Canadian Mark Tewksbury, with Davis in the winning medley relay team, were also on board.

Stubbs said Davis' parents, Mel Davis and Leona Haynes, had suggested the ceremony.

At Stubbs' request a container was filled with water from lane four at the university of Southern California pool where Davis won his Olympic title.

The only hitch to the carefully prepared plan came when Stubbs was stopped for a customs inspection at Los Angeles on his way to New Zealand.

But he was allowed to carry the ashes on to his plane after producing the cremation documents.

Harvey takes Whites past Blues

HOLIDAY air traffic made it impossible for Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads to send a side to the Sharjah 10-a-side competition this weekend. Instead a domestic game was held between the Blues of Jean Marie Barret and the Whites of Nick Harvey.

Harvey took this responsibility unusually seriously and set about stamping his authority on the game from the very beginning. Playing in the unfamiliar position of scrum half Harvey taunted the opposition with his direct running and quick thinking. His personal tally of 20 points illustrated his part in the emphatic second half victory for the Whites.

The first 40 minutes were an evenly matched affair. Blue fly

half Noel Kelly used the wind intelligently and kept the ball in front of his pack. The Whites ran at the opposition from the kick off and this gave early warning of their intended mode of attack. Ellis created the first try for Blues after some weak White tackling. Prop Ron Houston, in his favoured left wing position was on hand to dive over for 4 points. Pouquet quickly replied, for Whites, and then it was time for Harvey to open his account for the day with a well finished try. The lead changed hand for a third time in the half with an Ellis try, and then again with Harvey's second. Houston obviously enjoyed his early score as he was in the same place again for his second try and to bring the hectic first half scores to 14-14.

The second half seemed set for more of the same. The Blues had dominated the line outs through Andy Hopkins and Gary Hill whilst Tony Sole won much second phase ball for the Whites. Alan Wild had some fine runs from the Blue back line and they did appear to be gaining the upper hand.

However, Harvey began to weave his magic and put Pouquet over for the winners second try. Harvey then scored the cheekiest try of the afternoon. He quickly tapped a penalty to himself and ran at, round, and over the defence before placing the ball between the posts. This score seemed to take the heart out of the Blue defence as they went on to concede tries by hooker Rick Harrison, Anam Olabi and

Steve Hill, who finished off a fine run from the hard working Sean Kelly. Whilst not getting on the ever growing score sheet, the defensive player of the day was without doubt the White centre Liffar whose spectacular diving tackles were a fine example to any young player and quite disconcerting for the normally rampant Ellis.

The Blues fired up by Winfield and Robinson did manage the last score of the game when they combined to put Gary Hill over for a well taken try. But this was too little too late and allowed the Whites a victory of 40-18. This weekend the Kuwait (KMMC) Nomads 2nd XV travel to Dubai for an important cup qualifying game.

Chinese athletes using steroids

BEIJING, Jan 31, (Reuter): Chinese athletes are using steroids and cheating because a drive to win medals has overcome an earlier emphasis on fair play, an official newspaper said today.

In a report headlined "China joins in war against cheating", the China Daily said the use of steroids had increased in recent years.

"Once the enthusiastic initiator of the slogan 'Friendship first, competition second', the Chinese since the late 1970s have put more emphasis on competition in order to win medals in domestic and international tournaments," it said.

Sports Minister Wu Shaoun disclosed at last year's National Youth Games that Chinese athletes had used steroids — banned muscle-building drugs with potentially serious side-effects — and said users would be punished, it added.

It called for more openness in China about drug abuse in sport.

The newspaper did not name any athletes caught using steroids but referred to a report from a drug-testing centre in Tokyo which said a urine sample from a Chinese gold-medal winner at last year's Asian Track and Field Championships in New Delhi tested positive.

Top runner

OSLO, Jan 31, (Reuter): Ingrid Kristiansen, the world's greatest woman distance runner, is expecting her second child in July but has no plans to retire from the sport.

The 33-year-old Norwegian said yesterday she is expecting a baby on July 25 but expects to compete at next year's world championships.

"I needed a break and the timing of this pregnancy is just fine," said Kristiansen, the marathon, 5,000 and 10,000 metres world record holder.

Williams helps Cavaliers brush aside Miami Heat

MIAMI, Jan 31, (AP): John Williams scored five of his 24 points during a key fourth-quarter surge as the Cleveland Cavaliers, using centre Brad Daugherty for the first time this season, beat the Miami Heat 106-94.

Cleveland's 59-1 spurt last night was capped by two baskets by Williams, giving the Cavaliers a 98-86 lead with 3:09 to play. Daugherty, back from off-season foot surgery, scored seven points in 15 minutes.

Cleveland, winning its third game after five consecutive losses, also got 21 points from Mark Price. Glen Rice scored 19 points for Miami, which has lost six straight.

Pistons 112, Hawks 95 Joe Dumars and Isiah Thomas sparked a first-quarter surge that gave Detroit an 18-point lead en route to its fourth victory in a row, 112-95 over Atlanta.

James Edwards, who led the Pistons with 20 points, scored the first basket of the game on a dunk, giving Detroit a lead it never relinquished. It was the seventh victory in nine games for Detroit and its 13th in the last 16 games. The Hawks have lost four

of their last in six games.

Magic 129, Pacers 111 Terry Catledge scored 31 points and Sam Vincent became the first Orlando player ever to record a triple-double in a 129-111 victory over Indiana.

Vincent had 21 points, 11 rebounds and 17 assists as the Expansion Magic rebounded from a 16-point first-half deficit for only its fourth victory in 19 games. Vincent had 12 points in the fourth period when Orlando used a 14-0 run to outscore Indiana 44-25.

Bucks 108, Kings 102

Jack Sikma and Brad Lohaus spurred a 15-4 fourth-quarter burst with 3-pointers and Jay Humphries scored 13 points in the final period.

Lohaus' 3-pointer with 6:12 to go made it 94-87 Milwaukee, and then Sikma hit his fourth 3-pointer of the game to make it 97-88 with 5:27 remaining.

The Bucks, coming off the worst loss in their history, 48 points at Utah on Saturday night, squandered a third-quarter lead of 11 points before sending the Kings to their 17th period loss in 19 games.

Sikma led the Bucks with 23



Abdul-Jabbar, whose jerseys were stolen on Sunday.

points, Humphries had 19 and Lohaus 11. Wayman Tisdale led the Kings with 31 points and Kenny Smith and Rodney

McCray scored 18 apiece. Suns 120, Nets 95 Kevin Johnson scored 12 of his 30 points during a lopsided third

period as Phoenix won at home for the ninth straight time.

Jeff Hambrick added 28 points and Tom Chambers 23 for Phoenix, which won for the 16th time in its last 20 games.

New Jersey lost its sixth straight game and 10th in a row on the road despite Sam Bowie's 16 points and 15 from Joe Barry Carroll, who went past the 12,000-point mark in his nine-year NBA career.

The Suns, ahead 58-55 at half-time behind Chambers' 18 points, scored the first eight of the third quarter, in which they outscored the Nets 32-18.

Basketball Hall of Fame officials yesterday were considering tightening security after thieves filched jerseys belonging to Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Walt Frazier.

"We're certainly looking into the idea of at least putting an alarm system or a silent alarm system on to the exhibit cases," said Joseph O'Brien, executive director of the Hall of Fame.

Also taken in the Sunday heist were Abdul-Jabbar's goggles. The items had been on display in adjacent sections devoted to the Los Angeles Lakers and New

York Knicks on the second floor of the Hall of Fame. O'Brien said the cases containing the mementos were apparently jimmied open during visiting hours.

"It's probably some youngsters who's very sorry now," he said. "I don't think that anyone comes into the Hall of Fame with theft in mind. I think it's a tease once they're there."

In Los Angeles, Abdul-Jabbar's spokeswoman was dismayed by the news.

"I'm extremely disturbed to hear that. I certainly hope these things are recovered because that's really a shame," said Lauren Pullman. "We went to a lot of trouble to make sure that those items made it right there. We turned down numerous ebarities that wanted to auction it off."

Abdul-Jabbar, sure to be a future Hall of Famer, set more than 23 NBA records during his career.

Results
Phoenix 120 New Jersey 95
Cleveland 106 Miami 94
Detroit 112 Atlanta 94
Orlando 129 Indiana 111
L.A. Clippers 121 L.A. Lakers 104
Milwaukee 109 Sacramento 102
Portland 122 Utah 98

Pakistan plan one-day tournament

ISLAMABAD, Jan 31, (Reuters): Pakistan are planning an international one-day cricket tournament later this year to which they aim to attract all the major cricket-playing countries.

Commerce Minister Syed Faisal Saleh Hayat told reporters yesterday the tournament would be played at all Pakistan's

main cricket centres, with some matches under floodlights.

Lights are to be installed at two stadia, Lahore's Khaddafi Stadium and the National Stadium in Karachi.

Hayat gave no date for the tournament nor how many countries would take part, but Pakistan appear to be planning an

event on similar lines to the Nehru Cup, staged in India last October and November.

Pakistan won the Nehru limited overs competition, from which only New Zealand of the Test-playing countries were missing.

Pakistan's tournament will be

dedicated to the memory of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the father of current Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto.

He was hanged in 1979 on disputed murder conspiracy charges after being overthrown in a military coup by General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Eid Falah to contest local rally

ALTHOUGH the first round of the 1990 Marlboro Desert Challenge takes place in UAE this weekend, Kuwait national rally champion Eid Falah will be staying at home to contest tomorrow's local 4x4 rally.

A win in this event will clinch the title of Kuwait 4x4 champion for Falah.

The rally is the second round of the three event 4x4 championship, which was started this season by the KT Club. The first round was in November, and Falah, partnered by Khaled Khalifa in a Marlboro Mitsubishi Pajero was the first Kuwaiti driver home, collecting maximum points towards the local series.

Falah has not lost a local rally since the beginning of 1989, and aims to carry this record into 1990 with him. "The local rallies will always be the most important to me," said the Marlboro driver. "I'm in a very good position to be Kuwait champion in both categories at the end of this year, as I am also leading the conventional rally championship."

The Marlboro co-driver, Khaled Khalifa is one of the most experienced navigators in the region, and anticipates no major problems for Friday's event. "Eid is a good driver, and we have a specially built rally car, the Marlboro Mitsubishi Pajero. It is impossible to say exactly what will happen in any rally, but if we have no problems then we should do well."

"The stages are twisty and bumpy with few fast areas. This type of stage will suit a driver who can control his car, and who has good pace notes. To have a very strong car and good back-up is very important, and we are lucky to have the assistance to the Al Mulla company and Mitsubishi Rallyart in this."

The rally will consist of two of the stages from the Marlboro Desert Challenge round held here in November. The first is 6.77km long and the second is 3.38km. Acceleration is likely to be more significant than speed alone, and Clerk of the Course Abdullah Barkawi sees the stages primarily as a "test of skill."



Eid Falah

Pakistan crash again

Yousuf, Cox, Veletta, Bevan hit 50s

CANBERRA, Jan 31, (Reuters): Pakistan crashed to another defeat on their accident-prone tour of Australia today when a Prime Minister's XI beat them by 81 runs in a one-day match.

South Australia's Michael Bevan scored a stylish 74 off just 82 deliveries and recalled Test opener Mike Veletta made a neat 50 to take the home side, led by Australian captain Allan Border, to 266 for eight off 50 overs.

Pakistan never threatened in reply after slipping from 54 for one to 97 for five and chose instead just to bat out their overs.

Salim Yousuf made 54 not out in their eventual total of 185 for seven.

It was their sixth tour loss from eight outings, the other two matches ending in draws. Captain Imran Khan, Wasim Akram and Javed Miandad were all resting.

Border later said he was disappointed with Pakistan's negative batting display.

"It became obvious they were playing for next weekend with the Test match (starting on Saturday) so I wasn't going to give them any practice," he said.

Scoreboard

PRIME MINISTER'S XI

J. Cox lbw b Ghouri 66
M. Veletta c Anwar b Ghouri 50
M. Waugh c Anwar b Tauseef 4

D. Lehmann run out 4
M. Bevan c Tauseef b Aaqib 74
A. Border c Ejaz b Mushtaq 14
T. Zoehrer c Tauseef b Mushtaq 6
S. Storey b Anwar 19
J. Scuderi not out 6
D. Fleming not out 6
Extras (b-lb-8b-2w-9) 20
Total for eight wickets, 20



Salim Yousuf, remained unbeaten on 54

innings closed) 266
Fall of wickets: 1-88 2-104 3-113 4-156 5-179 6-177 7-244 8-256
Did not bat: W. Holdsworth.
Bowling: Waqar Younis 10-0-67-0 (1nb 3w), Saeed Anwar 1-0-6-1, Mushtaq Ahmed 10-0-46-2, Aaqib Javed 9-45-1 (1nb 6w), Tauseef Ahmed 10-0-47-1, Nadeem Ghouri 10-0-56-2

PAKISTAN
Aamir Malik lbw b Holdsworth 4
Shoaib Mohammad c Border b Waugh 33
Rameez Raja c Waugh b Scuderi 20
Ejaz Ahmed c Fleming b Waugh 15
Saeed Anwar run out 16
Salim Yousuf not out 54
Mushtaq Ahmed c sub (Waugh) b Border 8
Tauseef Ahmed c Waugh b Storey 0
Waqar Younis not out 27
Extras (b-lb-3w-4) 4
Total for seven wickets, 185
Innings closed) 185
Fall of wickets: 1-52 2-54 3-78 4-89 5-97 6-119 7-120
Did not bat: Nadeem Ghouri, Aaqib Javed.

Bowling: Holdsworth 5-0-28-1, (1w), Fleming 8-1-21-0 (3w), Waugh 5-0-19-2, Storey 10-1-23-1, Border 8-2-18-1, Scuderi 7-0-26-1, Cox 2-0-12-0, Lehmann 3-0-19-4, Bevan 1-0-9-0, Veletta 3-0-12-0.
Prime Minister's XI won by 81 runs.

Scotland to face Ireland

LONDON, Jan 31, (Reuters): Jacques Fouroux appears more concerned with Scotland than the England team his French side face in the second round of the Five Nations Rugby Union championship this weekend.

"For 10 years Scotland have been more dangerous opponents for us," the French coach said.

France and England, who both won their opening matches 10 days ago, clash in Paris while Scotland begin their campaign against Ireland in Dublin. The French then visit Scotland in mid February while Wales return to action against England.

The Scots, who finished joint

second with England behind France last year, enter the fray with a solid and balanced look about them after storming victories against Fiji and Romania earlier in the season.

"(The Scots) are the most coherent, the most inventive and the most faithful to a particular style of play," Fouroux said.

But if the Scots are to put pressure on favourites France and England they must get their expected victory in Dublin.

They are at full strength with the return of Lions fly half Craig Chalmers and wing Iwan Tukalo, who missed the 32-0 defeat of the Romanians.

The Romania match confirmed

the fine form of young wing Tony Stanger, who will be making his Five Nations debut. Stanger, 21, scored a hat-trick of tries against Romania after running in two in his international debut against the Fijians.

But Stanger, whose speed and build have been compared with those of All Black John Kirwan, is aware of the greater pressure in the Five Nations.

"I'll be lucky to get five passes never mind five tries in the next two games," he said. "I will not feel that I have really made the grade until I have played in a Five Nations match."

Ireland, who showed commendable defence before crumbling at Twickenham, where they lost 23-0, should be a tougher nut to crack at home and they have recalled former Wallaby fly half Brian Smith after a poor debut by Paul Russell.

Fouroux is hoping that home advantage will tell against the English, who beat his side 11-0 at Twickenham last season.

"(The English pack) are so strong but trying to win in Paris is like trying to win in Cardiff," Fouroux said.

France did win in Cardiff for the fourth time in a row, but only after being pressed all the way by a Welsh side down to 14 men after half an hour.

The match at the Parc des Princes looks finely balanced with some individual duels to savour, not least that in which French captain Pierre Berbizier at scrum half comes up against an equally shrewd opposite number in Richard Hill.

Rob Andrew will be pitting his wits against Franck Mesnel, whom France have recalled at fly half in place of Didier Camberabero. They may have weakened their place kicking by dropping Camberabero, the job going to centre Denis Charvet who has never done it for France.

Philippe Sella, the vastly experienced centre with 67 caps and 22 international tries, faces Jeremy Guscott, England's brilliant newcomer who has gone over in his three matches for England and once for the Lions and has yet to be on the losing side in an international.

S. African police fight protesters

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Jan 31, (Reuters): Black activists opposing rebel English cricketers playing in South Africa vowed to stage fresh protests today following the worst violence of the first week of the tour.

Police said they arrested 45 people and fired tear-gas and rubber bullets to disperse a crowd of stone-throwing protesters yesterday.

The violence erupted in a black township near Bloemfontein, where Mike Gatting and his team met a South African Universities XI in the second match of their seven-week tour.

Activists co-ordinating the protests said dozens of people were hurt in police baton charges. They added more violence was likely if police tried to stop demonstrations.

A separate three-hour protest at the Springbok Park ground passed off peacefully after South African Cricket Union chief Ali Bacher, who organised the boycott-busting tour, mediated with police on behalf of the demonstrators.

A sprinkling of spectators who turned out to see the first day of the three-day match were outnumbered by 500 demonstrators who were allowed to gather and shout anti-tour slogans outside the ground.

In the nearby township of Mangung, scores of youths set up barricades of boulders and blazing tyres. They stoned police cars to protest at a decision to bar them from the Springbok Park demonstration.

Activists said the clashes with police had subsided by noon.

Police alert bomb squad near Queen's residence

AUCKLAND, Jan 31, (Reuters): Auckland police called in the bomb squad and evacuated homes today after discovering a stolen car near Government House, just hours before Britain's Queen Elizabeth arrives for a tour of New Zealand.

But police spokeswoman Kaye Calder said the squad had found no bomb in the car, parked a few blocks from the house.

The Queen's youngest son, Prince Edward, who is in Auckland for the Commonwealth Games, was at the house during the security scare but was not evacuated.

"The area has now been declared safe. The car was found to contain nothing of interest to us," said Calder, describing the search as precautionary.

Families in five homes were evacuated and road blocks set up at four intersections while the squad examined the car. The Queen will also stay at Government House, a residence of Governor General Sir Paul Reeves, for part of her 16-day visit starting tomorrow.

Last week, police raided homes of Maori and other radicals and seized two guns.

During the tour, the Queen will attend celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi, a pact between Maori chiefs and Britain which is at the centre of a controversy over Maori rights.

The Queen and her husband Prince Philip arrive at Auckland airport tomorrow morning but will spend the first night of the tour in the central north island resort of Taupo before returning to Auckland.

Usually the Queen stays aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia during New Zealand tours but she is using Government House during this trip which is longer than past tours.

Sanchez sweeps aside Faull

TOKYO, Jan 31, (Reuters): Spanish teenager Arantxa Sanchez won her first match of the new year today when she beat her main goal for 1990 to repeat last year's shock French Open tennis victory.

Sanchez, 18, who is seeded to meet world number one Steffi Graf in the final of the \$350,000 Pan Pacific tournament here, took just 41 minutes to reach the quarterfinals with an effortless 6-1 6-0 win over Australia's Jo-Anne Faull.

"I didn't play in the Australian Open because I was practicing," said Sanchez, who is ranked fifth in the world. "So I prepared really well and I feel confident and ready to play."

Sanchez's last competitive appearance was in December's Hopman Cup mixed team tournament in Australia where she partnered her brother Emilio Sanchez to victory. She missed



Sanchez ready

this month's Australian Open which was won by Graf, Sanchez's victim in the French Open final last year.

Asked about her main goals this year, she said: "I'd like, if possible, to take the same titles as last year ... that is to repeat the

(French Open) title in Roland Garros and I'll try to do my best to make my ranking higher."

The only seed to struggle on the second day was number five Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union, world-ranked 23, who battled for 155 minutes to beat 115th-ranked American Peanut Louie-Harper 4-6 7-6 7-6 after winning the second set tiebreak 13-11.

Third seed Manuela Maleeva, whose agents announced she would represent Switzerland last year, lost to her native Bulgaria on this year's tour, and sixth seed Gigi Fernandez of the United States took up their allotted places in the last eight with straight sets wins.

Maleeva, 22, and ranked eighth in the world, lives in Bourg-Desous, Switzerland, with her husband and coach Francois Frangiere, once a highly ranked Swiss junior player.

Bridge results

RESULTS of the Regency Bridge Club game held on Sunday evening:

1. Abdul Ghani Shadlaby & Saeed Elsaid
2. Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah
3. Banayot & Grigoriou

Results of the Messiah Ladies Bridge Club game held on Monday morning:

1. Nida Khalaf & Subendran Onkay
2. Hala Khoury & Rima Ayyad
3. Jamila Akel & Margaret Maynard

Results of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club game:

1. Nahil Akel & Lollo Murthwaite
2. Rima Ayyad & Ghofran Mikail
3. Doua Matany & Clara Bastiere

Italian Cup

ROME, Jan 31, (Reuters): Results of the first leg semifinal matches of the Italian Soccer Cup today:

Juventus 2 Roma 0
AC Milan 0 Napoli 0
(Second leg February 14. Two-leg final on February 28 and March 14)

SPORTS BRIEF

Indian hockey

NEW DELHI, Jan 31, (Reuters): Indian centre-half Hardeep Singh has been recalled to India's 16-strong men's hockey squad for the seventh World Cup in Lahore starting on February 12.

Squad: Ashish Balal, Mark Patterson, Pargat Singh, Ashok Kumar, B.K. Subramani, Vivek Singh, Supit Kumar, Ajit Lakra, Hardeep Singh, R.P. Singh, Jude Felix, Jagbir Singh, Balwinder Singh, Thobha Singh, Edgar Mascarenhas, Dhanraj Pillai.

No advantage

WELLINGTON, Jan 31, (Reuters): Playing on the grass courts of Christchurch's Wilding Park will be of no special advantage to New Zealand in its Davis Cup tennis tie against Yugoslavia, team captain Jeff Simpson said today.

Senna fine

PARIS, Jan 31, (Reuters): The International Motor Sports Federation (FISA) today gave the McLaren team a \$100,000 fine or be suspended from Formula One competition. FISA said the team had until six pm (1700 GMT) tomorrow to pay the fine, imposed on Brazilian driver Ayrton Senna last October, or face suspension from the world motor racing championship.

Site evaluation

MIAMI, Jan 31, (UPI): A four-person team charged with evaluating sites for the 1994 World Cup soccer championships in the United States began a 22-city tour yesterday by inspecting the Orange Bowl and Joe Robbie Stadium in South Florida. The tour was to move from Miami to Tampa today, and will reach Los Angeles March 1 before returning east winding up in Atlanta in April.

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"Albert" Jackets	KD. 3.500
"Coup De Cœur" Sweet Shirts	KD. 2.500
TEENS' DEPT.	
"Zorro" Checkered Skirt in Twill Cotton	KD. 3.500
"Sluggo" Denim Jackets	KD. 5.500
"Sluggo" Pullovers	KD. 4.500
"Albert" Cardigans	KD. 3.500
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"Nitya" Velvet Skirts	KD. 3.500
"Nitya" Velvet Blouses	KD. 3.500
"Nitya" Velvet Pants	KD. 3.500
"Kookai" Blouses	KD. 3.500
"Kookai" Knitted Skirts	KD. 3.500
MEN'S DEPT.	
"Giorgio" L/S Shirts	KD. 1.500
"Progressions" Corduroy Pants	KD. 3.500
"Creeks" Cotton Jackets	KD. 6.500
"Mc Davis" Pullovers	KD. 7.500
"Jean Tonic" Blazers	KD. 3.500
LADIES' HOMEWEAR	
"Relax" L/S Tops	KD. 0.500
"Relax" Skirts	KD. 1.250
"Relax" Night Gowns	KD. 1.500
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Ahmed Al Jarallah

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